

# CREATING A CSEC COLLABORATIVE COURT:

## San Diego County Juvenile RISE Court Model

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R.I.S.E. (Resiliency Is Strength and Empowerment)

## PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

### Planning Stages and Collaborative Team Formation

- Partner Inclusivity
- Mission Statement & Goals
- Program Development
  1. Why & Who
  2. Eligibility
  3. Voluntary vs. Involuntary Participation
  4. Screening Process & Screening Tool
- Funding

### Role Of Team Members

### Empowerment Activities

### Importance of Data Collection and Measurements

## COLLABORATIVE TEAM

### Child Welfare Services' CSEC Steering Committee Members:

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Child Welfare Services          | • District Attorney                    |
| • Juvenile Court                  | • Public Defender                      |
| • Probation                       | • County Counsel                       |
| • Behavioral Health Service       | • Dependency Attorneys                 |
| • Public Health Services          | • San Diego County Office of Education |
| • Victim Services Providers       | • Peer (survivor) advocates            |
| • Law enforcement (HT Task Force) |  |

\*\*Created in 2015 as part of CA Senate Bill 855

## PLANNING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- 2015 USD & PLNU published study on San Diego's Sex Trafficking & gangs
- 2016 CSEC Steering Committee developed San Diego's CSEC Interagency Protocol & CSEC Response model
- Oct. 2016 Juvenile Court Presiding Judge Carolyn Caietti formed working group to explore creating CSEC Court.

Initial members included: Behavioral Health Services, Child Welfare Services, County Counsel, Dependency Attorneys, District Attorney, Probation, and Public Defender.

\* Group decided to start by creating CSEC delinquency court.  
\* Working group met monthly for one year prior to Court implementation

- Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 2017 RISE Court's inaugural calendar

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## DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

### Information Gathering

- Researched Los Angeles County's STAR & DREAM Courts and Sacramento County's Dept 90 Court.
- Team visited LA's STAR Court & met with Probation

### Discussing Take Aways From Our Research

- What is our Court's focus and what defines success for our youth?

### Including Survivors' Voices in Development Meetings is Very Important!

- Survivors unanimously preferred Resiliency Is Strength and Empowerment as the Court's name over other suggestions.

### Evaluating Agency Abilities & Exploring Resources

### Identifying Funding Sources & How to do more with less \$ (aka budget cuts)

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## MISSION & GOALS STATEMENTS

### • Mission Statement

RISE Court is a **collaborative**, engaged, and **trauma-informed** court that uses a multidisciplinary approach to address the needs of youth who may have a history of, or may be at risk for, commercial sexual exploitation.

### • Goals Statement

RISE Court aims to engage and support youth and their families to achieve their full potential by using the "Five Cs" model of positive youth development: competence, confidence, character, connection, and contribution (Pitmann, 2002).

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## FUNDING (SUSTAINABILITY OF PROGRAM)

### Policy, Procedures & Training

Supplies for Youth – Grace bags, birthday & celebrations, school related expenses, health & wellness related expenses, and other relevant necessities

### Incentives (gift cards) & Empowerment Activities

### Data Collection

- Use of West Coast Children's Clinic's CSE-IT screening tool
- Inputting and Extracting Data

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## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Delinquency ward of the court.
2. Minor has suspected or confirmed history of commercial sexual abuse/exploitation. Self-disclosure not necessary.
3. Youth is not currently in other collaborative/specialty courts or a dependent of Juvenile Court.
4. Probation social study in file.
5. Recent psychological evaluation in file.

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## PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

6. Screened by the CSE-IT tool.
7. Minor has custody time available.
8. Not a documented gang member and does not pose an imminent threat to self or others.
9. Youth and family/caregiver are willing to participate in RISE.
10. Court eligible for female and male (including transgender) youth.

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## Voluntary vs. Involuntary Participation

### • Participating in RISE Court is voluntary

- The Participant agrees to sign a contract agreeing to follow the rules and conditions
  - This empowers the participant to have a choice
  - Role clarification and expectations are addressed
  - The participant has an understanding about what they are embarking on
  - Participant more willing to engage in trauma therapy
- Parent/Guardian/Caregiver Involvement
  - Key to better outcomes and success
  - Participant may still be considered if no Parent/Guardian/Caregiver




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## R.I.S.E. COURT TEAM

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juvenile Court</li> <li>• Juvenile Probation: Case carrying POs, Senior PO, Supervising PO, Supervising PO of Girls Rehabilitation Facility</li> <li>• District Attorney</li> <li>• Public Defender</li> <li>• Behavioral Health Services Psychologist</li> <li>• Child Welfare Services Liaison</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drug &amp; alcohol recovery specialist</li> <li>• Victim Services Providers:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North County Lifeline's Project Life</li> <li>San Diego Youth Services STARS &amp; I Care</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Peer advocates/survivor leaders</li> <li>• Therapy dog Poppy</li> <li>• Court Appointed Special Advocate</li> <li>• San Diego County Office of Education</li> </ul> |
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## ROLE OF JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS & GRF PROGRAM

- Staff Training
- Assessment Tool
- Institutional Services Programming
  - My Life My Choice curriculum
  - Ending the Game curriculum
  - kNOw More (interactive drama program)
- Referral to Victim Services Providers where staff can meet youth while in the institutions & begin building rapport




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## RISE COURT CALENDAR

- Meets weekly
- Probation emails RISE team 48 hrs prior to calendar (1) agenda; (2) suitability reports; and (3) progress reports
- Each calendar begins with team discussions off the record about the screening cases
- Team members next discuss other review or probation violation cases
- After discussion, defense counsels, POs, and victim services team meet with youth & caregiver
- Cases are called on the record and therapy dog Poppy sits next to youth (if requested)
- Judge allows time for youth to ask questions, discuss progress or challenges
- Team celebrate youth's birthdays or graduations with gifts & cards
- Youth can earn giftcards as incentives




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## EMPOWERMENT & SKILLS BUILDING

- Scavenger hunt at Balboa Park
- Beach day or hang by Mission Bay
- Self-defense classes
- Paint night
- College tours
- College women's basketball & water polo games
- Financial literacy workshops
- Holiday party




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## NORTH COUNTY LIFELINE'S PROJECT L.I.F.E

- Serves juvenile & adult victims of Labor & Sex trafficking in North San Diego County region
- Case management
- Mental health counseling
- Peer (survivor) advocates
- Temporary safehouse




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## SAN DIEGO YOUTH SERVICES

### S.T.A.R.S.

Serves youth ages 12-24

Case management  
Therapy – individual, group, family  
Psychiatry/Medication management  
Peer mentoring  
\* Youth must meet federal definition of  
Human Trafficking victim

### I Care

Serves youth ages 12-21

Case management  
Therapy – individual, group, family  
Psychiatry/Medication management  
Drop In Center  
Peer mentoring  
Educational specialist  
Internship opportunities  
Parent/caregiver support group  
\* Youth does not need to disclose CSEC or  
meet federal def of HT victim

## DATA COLLECTION & MEASUREMENTS

- How do you measure success?
- What do you want to collect & why?
  - Justify future funding – Staffing, Programming, Expansion
  - Grant Opportunities
  - Justify/Request Programming
  - Identify Gaps (processes, programming, resources, etc...)
- What do you already collect?
- Who else collects data & what are they collecting?
- What is RISE Court collecting?

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