



# 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)

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## 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**

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## COLLABORATIVE TEAM

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Welfare Services</li> <li>• Juvenile Court</li> <li>• Probation</li> <li>• Behavioral Health Service</li> <li>• Public Health Services</li> <li>• Victim Services Providers</li> <li>• Law enforcement (HT Task Force)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Attorney</li> <li>• Public Defender</li> <li>• County Counsel</li> <li>• Dependency Attorneys</li> <li>• San Diego County Office of Education</li> <li>• Peer (survivor) advocates</li> </ul>
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\*\*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

- Juvenile Court
- Juvenile Probation: Case carrying POs, Senior PO, Supervising PO, Supervising PO of Girls Rehabilitation Facility
- District Attorney
- Public Defender
- Behavioral Health Services Psychologist
- Child Welfare Services Liaison
- Drug & alcohol recovery specialist
- Victim Services Providers:
  - North County Lifeline's Project Life
  - San Diego Youth Services STARS & I Care
- Peer advocates/survivor leaders
- Therapy dog Poppy
- Court Appointed Special Advocate
- San Diego County Office of Education




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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

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## 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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