

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Community Services Agency
Urgent Routine
CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
(Information Attached)

BOARD AGENDA # B-9
AGENDA DATE January 12, 2016
4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:
Approval to Proclaim the Month of January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:
Proclaim the Month of January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

FISCAL IMPACT:
There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS: No. 2016-37

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien
and approved by the following vote,
Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith
Noes: Supervisors: None
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None
Abstaining: Supervisor: None

- 1) Approved as recommended
- 2) Denied
- 3) Approved as amended
- 4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: Christine Ferraro
CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

DISCUSSION:

In 2007, the United States Senate designated January 11 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. The President of the United States brought awareness to Human Trafficking by proclaiming January 2015 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. As his proclamation stated "Founded on the principles of justice and fairness, the United States continues to be a leader in the global movement to end modern-day slavery. We are working to combat human trafficking, prosecute the perpetrators, and help victims recover and rebuild their lives." The President's last sentence in his proclamation regarding working to end human trafficking and helping victims is what local government and community partners are doing in Stanislaus County.

The Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office in December 2011 held the first Human Exploitation and Recovery Taskforce (HEART) meeting for local agencies who investigate and serve sex trafficking victims. Eventually the group grew to include labor trafficking as well. In June 2014, legislation was passed in California that specifically identified commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC), or more commonly known as sex trafficked youth, to be served by the Child Welfare System as victims and not suspects. This legislative change acknowledges that victims of human trafficking are "sexually abused entirely, or at least primarily, for financial or other economic reasons. The economic exchanges involved may be either monetary or non-monetary (i.e. for food, shelter, drugs, etc.)." A Stanislaus County CSEC Protocol was developed and implemented in September 2015 by all the local law enforcement agencies, Community Services Agency (CSA), Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Health Services Agency, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Agency, Without Permission, Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus County, and Center for Human Services. The CSEC Protocol outlines investigation expectations and client centered services to ensure the victim is safe and not traumatized further.

Within the Community Services Agency during the month of June 2015, Child Welfare staff identified eight youth who were sex trafficked and another 88 who were at risk. In addition, there was one Extended Foster Care young adult who was sex trafficked and another 15 who were identified as being at risk. Juvenile Probation is also working to identify youth who are sex trafficked as soon as they enter Juvenile Hall and ensure that referrals are made to a local non-profit that serves sex trafficked victims and their families.

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CSA's vision is to continue to support training in the community and bring awareness of sex trafficking to parents, service providers, and decision makers in partnership with local community based organizations. Awareness is the first step in identifying the problem and supporting the minors who fall prey to their traffickers. CSA and community partners will continue to provide support and services to youth and their families to combat human trafficking in Stanislaus County.

The agency is requesting the Board of Supervisors proclaim January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County. The resolution will be presented to Debbie Johnson, the executive director of a local community based organization, Without Permission; Christine Huber, CSA manager that oversees CSEC implementation, and Jill Silva, Chief Probation Officer from the Probation Department.

POLICY ISSUE:

Proclaiming the month of January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month honors County Departments, local law enforcement agencies and community partners' contributions to the Board of Supervisors' priorities of A Safe Community and A Healthy Community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact associated with this request.

CONTACT PERSON:

Kathryn M. Harwell, Director (209) 558-2500

Proclaim the Month of January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which victims are forced to work in various forms of labor exploitation including, but not limited to, commercial sex acts and other services that are induced through force, fraud or coercion; and

WHEREAS, due to its isolating nature, many individuals across the globe are unaware that trafficking exists in their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors is committed to protecting human rights and individual freedom by working to eliminate human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, to successfully combat human trafficking, the people of Stanislaus County must be informed about the problem in its local context, work to protect victims of human trafficking with effective services and support, prosecute traffickers, provide public awareness, and address the root causes of modern slavery; and

WHEREAS, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors urges the people of Stanislaus County to educate themselves about all forms of human trafficking and the signs and consequences thereof; and

WHEREAS, Human Trafficking Awareness Month gives the community a chance to honor the dedicated community service agencies, local law enforcement agencies, local probation department and community based organizations who have worked together to combat human trafficking and ensure a better life for many of our county's children.

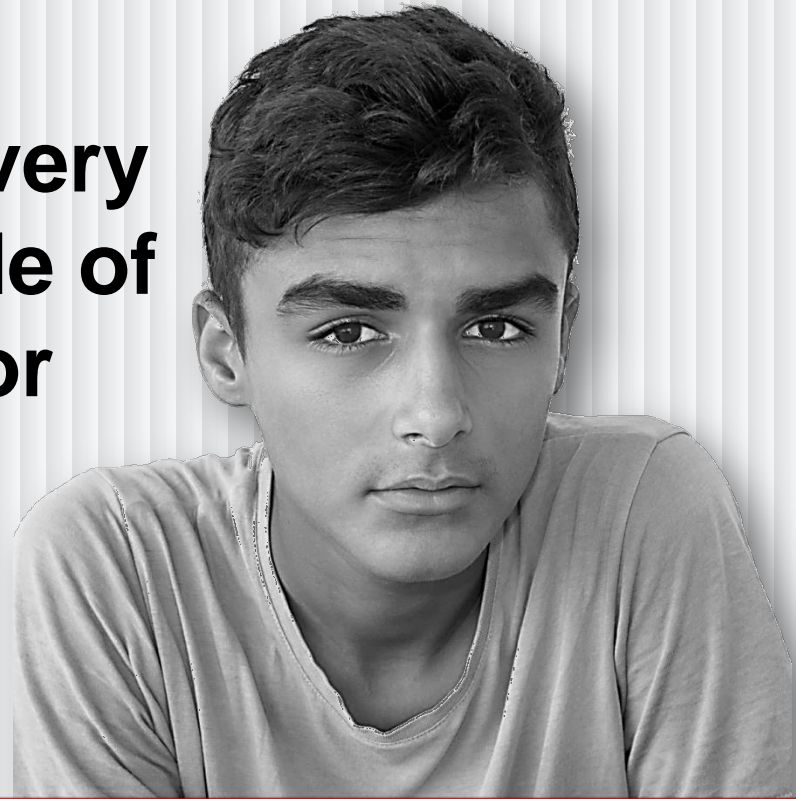
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, does hereby proclaim **January 2016 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month**.

STOP Human Trafficking In Stanislaus County



What is human trafficking?

Modern-day form of slavery involving the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain



**Why? It's about
the money**



FBI Estimates



- **100,000 children are sold for sex each year**
- **300,000 children are at risk of being sold for sex each year**

California



Stanislaus County Child Welfare Services

- **Estimates 9 youth are sex trafficked**
- **103 at risk in CWS**



MOU Partners

- **Community Services Agency**
- **Behavioral Health and Recovery Services**
- **Health Services Agency**
- **District Attorney's Office**
- **Probation Department**
- **All Law Enforcement Agencies**
- **Center For Human Services – Hutton House**
- **Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus County**
- **Without Permission**





**Developed and
Implemented MOU by
September 2015**

**What Community
Services Agency
has accomplished
this calendar year**





Juvenile Probation

Future Goals

- **County wide screening tool**
- **Array of placement options for youth in care**
- **County wide awareness of Human Trafficking**
- **“Trafficking is not okay in Stanislaus County”**



*I'm not
for sale*

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**STOP Human Trafficking
in Stanislaus County**

Stanislaus
County
Striving to be the Best

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