

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

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA:8.1
AGENDA DATE: January 9, 2018

SUBJECT:

Proclaim the Month of January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County


BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-0041

On motion of Supervisor Monteith , Seconded by Supervisor Olsen
and approved by the following vote,
Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Chiesa, Withrow, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini
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: 
PAM VILLARREAL, Assistant Clerk

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Community Services Agency

BOARD AGENDA:8.1
AGENDA DATE: January 9, 2018

CEO CONCURRENCE: YES

4/5 Vote Required: No

SUBJECT:

Proclaim the Month of January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Proclaim the Month of January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

DISCUSSION:

In 2007, the United States Senate designated January 11 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. The President of the United States, George W. Bush, brought awareness to Human Trafficking by proclaiming January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. As President Bush's 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." Local government and community partners are working together to end human trafficking in Stanislaus County.

In December 2011 the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office 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 local law enforcement agencies, Community Services Agency (CSA), Probation Department, District Attorney's Office, Health Services Agency, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, 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 further traumatized.

Within the Community Services Agency as of the end of Fiscal Year 2016-2017, Child Welfare staff identified fourteen (14) youth who were sex trafficked and another one hundred and twenty-one (121) who were at risk. There were twenty-one (21) youth missing from foster care, six (6) of which have been recovered through partnership with Rank Investigation and Protection, Inc.

Through the County's partnership with Without Permission, all dependent youth will receive an assessment for risk of exploitation. Services will then be offered to either prevent or survive exploitation. This evidence-based assessment Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) is utilized by several of the other partners in the sex trafficked multi-disciplinary team. Additionally, social workers at CSA have the ability to refer youth known or suspected to be trafficked to Without Permission for an assessment and services. 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.

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 traffickers. CSA and community partners will continue to provide support and services to youth and their families to combat human trafficking in Stanislaus County.

CSA is requesting the Board of Supervisors to 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; Dr. Julian Wren, CSA Manager that oversees CSEC implementation, and Mike Hamasaki, Chief Probation Officer from the Stanislaus County 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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended action is consistent with the Boards' priorities of Supporting *Strong and Safe Neighborhoods and Enhancing Community Health* by bringing awareness to the community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact associated with this request.

CONTACT PERSON:

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

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proclaim the Month of January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

**PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2018 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 Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim January 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

#BREAKFREE from Human Trafficking In Stanislaus County



What is child human trafficking?

The sexual exploitation of minors for economic profit. It includes “any sex act on account of which anything of value is given to or received by any person”

(Clayton, Krugman, and Simon, 2013).



Why?

It's about the money



California

In FY 15/16, a total number of 1,911 CSEC victims were identified and served by 38 early participating counties



Stanislaus County Child Welfare Services

- **FY 15/16 27 youth
have been sex
trafficked**
- **121 at risk in CWS**



Partners

**WITHOUT
PERMISSION**



What have we accomplished?

- **Training for county employees and the community.**
- **Co-location of a Human Trafficking Navigator at CSA.**
- **Started development for a comprehensive CSEC multimedia awareness campaign.**
- **Contracted for inpatient and intensive outpatient teen substance abuse treatment.**
- **Contracted with a local private investigator firm to help us locate those youth missing from foster care.**



Challenges

- **Unresolved trauma**
- **Vulnerability to recruitment**
- **Stigma and shame**
- **LGBTQ and youth of color at higher risk**
- **Placement challenges**
- **Lack of community Awareness**



Future Goals

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





**Proclaim
January 2018
as Human
Trafficking
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BREAKFREE