

**Grants to Address Trafficking within the Child Welfare Populations**  
**Grantee King County Superior Court's Final Report**  
**December 2019**

**I. Executive Summary**

King County is the most populous county in Washington State, with the most populous city in the state (Seattle), and has the greatest number of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) cases in the entire state. A 2019 report by Dr. Debra Boyer estimates that in Seattle, there are 231 identified children under the age of 18 who are trafficking victims annually, and an estimated 500 to 700 identified youth under the age of 24 who have been trafficked. The actual number may be far higher.

This report describes the activities and outcomes of the King County CSEC Task Force and CSEC Program as a result of funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Grant #90CA1825. The grant was awarded on October 1, 2014 and expired on September 30, 2019. The primary organizations involved in the grant funded efforts are the King County Superior Court (KCSC), the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF), the Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ), YouthCare, and the University of Washington (UW), with King County Superior Court providing all grant oversight and management.

The primary goal of the King County CSEC Task Force is to ensure the safety and support of CSEC and to prevent further victimization. This is accomplished through several activities, some of which were already underway and some of which developed as a result of federal funding. The following Task Force activities were influenced by grant funding.

- The King County CSEC Task Force serves to improve strategic cross-system communication and to institutionalize collaboration among network organizations, with over 122 different organizations having been involved in the Task Force during the project period.
- Training is provided throughout the county to service providers and citizens to bolster the community's ability to identify, refer, and serve CSEC. All trainings are offered at no cost and are open to the public.
- Community awareness is built through the availability of a website, podcast, frequent email updates, and open meetings.
- Identified youth are served by the Bridge Collaborative via a "community advocate" model. The Bridge Collaborative consists of five nonprofit youth-serving agencies that provide trauma-informed community-based care, such as support with housing, substance use, safety, employment, education, and any other life domain. Community Advocates use a multidisciplinary case planning approach to providing services to referred youth.
- A full-time CSEC liaison was hired by DCYF to develop a screening instrument and create protocol, track and monitor screened youth, refer identified youth to appropriate services, train and support social workers when a suspected CSE youth is on their caseload, coordinate with the CSEC Multidisciplinary Team, and assist with policy development and implementation in DCYF.
- The DCYF CSEC Liaison improved collaboration with the FBI Child Exploitation Task Force for providing and receiving youth referrals.
- ConnectUP was developed, providing specialized foster care for trafficked youth, intended to increase residential stability and reduce the risk of runaway episodes and other adverse events.

The Task Force has largely accomplished its primary goals and objectives from the proposed grant funding. The major activities, results and outcomes are as follows:

- Over 4,500 individuals in Washington State received training on CSEC, including over 1,000 social workers trained by the CSEC Liaison alone.
  - Training was built into the regular training infrastructure for all new DCYF social workers, and an unknown number of social workers (likely thousands) were trained via this mechanism.
  - Pre and post-training surveys revealed increased knowledge, comfort, and improved attitudes from survey respondents.
  - There were no differences in survey responses between participants who attended trainings by the developer of the training or others (via train-the-trainer format), revealing that the training was successfully disseminated to others to use.
- A Multidisciplinary Case Planning best practices checklist was developed with the support of the Community Advocates, and self-report revealed very high adherence to these best practices. However, DCYF social workers received the lowest scores of any service partners on a question about positive collaboration, and this did not change over time.
- A total of 268 unique youth were enrolled in services in the Bridge Collaborative during the grant period. A total of 150 youth were identified as suspected or at risk/suspected of CSEC by DCYF.
- The Task Force had steady growth in the number of associated and core member organizations. There were 122 organizations that were involved and 20 quarterly Task Force meetings during the project period.
  - Task force members reported significantly greater Collaborative Capacity overall, particularly for “Membership” (whether the membership represented the entirety of CSEC-focused organizations in the county), “Process and Structure” (whether the structure of the Task Force was conducive to collaboration), and “Communication” (whether there were strong communication channels among organizations to support collaboration).
  - The awareness, referral, and communication networks became significantly denser over the project period, demonstrating increasing inter-organizational collaboration.
  - Among the CSEC-relevant organizational network, DCYF was the most central organization for youth referrals, and over the course of the five years of grant funding became the most central organization for communication about cases. This was likely the result of the CSEC Liaison’s work, training, and shifting responsibilities of DCYF due to federal policies and mandates.
- Youth who were identified as CSEC by DCYF had a long and complex history with the Child Welfare and justice systems, with frequent runaway episodes while in the care of Child Welfare (9 per youth, on average), frequent juvenile detention episodes (also an average of 9 per youth), and significant residential instability (27 living situation disruptions while in the care of Child Welfare).
- Youth who received services from the Bridge Collaborative reported a great deal of satisfaction with the services provided by the Community Advocate, highlighting the community-based, flexible, comprehensive, and respectful nature of service provision.
  - Youth and advocates reported consistent and significant improvements in safety, residential stability, hopefulness for the future, and mental health.

Most of the elements and activities that were developed and implemented during the project period have been integrated into a sustainability plan. These include securing ongoing funding for the CSEC Program Manager, CSEC Liaison, and the CSEC Outreach Specialist. All work those positions began during the grant funded period will continue.

King County's primary recommendations resulting from the activities and finding of this project are as follows:

- Ensure that there is a clear mechanism for connecting screening results in Child Welfare to effective services.
- Fund research on adaptations of evidence-based practices to be applied to CSEC. These should be focused on housing stability, mental health/trauma, and practical support in multiple life domains.
- Provide support for youth and survivor involvement, including training on successful processes to be used by service provider and other relevant organizations.
- Institutionalize essential staff positions, especially coordinator, trainer, and liaisons.

## **II. Introduction and Overview of Cross-System Collaboration**

### **A. Describe the jurisdiction in which the project is placed.**

With a population of approximately 2.2 million, King County is the most populous county in Washington State. Situated on the I-5 corridor, Seattle, the seat of King County, along with the neighboring communities of Tacoma (Pierce County) and Everett (Snohomish County) have the greatest number of CSEC cases in the entire state. A detailed map of King County, including federal legislative districts, can be found [here](#).

### **B. Describe the problem of human trafficking in the project jurisdiction.**

In June 2008, Dr. Debra Boyer published [“Who Pays the Price? Assessment of Youth Involvement in Prostitution in Seattle”](#). In this report, Dr. Boyer estimated there were 250 children (under the age of 18) involved in prostitution annually in Seattle. This number resulted in a prevalence estimate of youth (under the age of 18) involved in prostitution in the Seattle area of 300-500.

Many things have changed in Seattle and King County since 2008. First and foremost, we no longer refer to victimized youth as “youth in prostitution.” We acknowledge that prostituted youth are in fact human trafficking victims. Second, by policy if not by legislation, youth are no longer charged with the crime of prostitution. In 2009 the Washington State Legislature passed HB 1505 “Juvenile Prostitution Offenders – Diversion” which formalized a diversion process for youth being trafficked. [RCW 13.40.213](#) became effective on July 26, 2009. As of this writing, youth in Washington state can still be charged with the crimes of prostitution and prostitution loitering; however, no youth has been charged with prostitution in King County since 2014. As no youth have been charged with prostitution or prostitution loitering since 2014, no King County youth has utilized the diversion described in [RCW 13.40.213](#) since 2014, prior to the grant period.

In November 2019, Dr. Debra Boyer published [“Commercially Sexually Exploited Children in Seattle/King County 2019 Update”](#). In this updated report, Dr. Boyer estimated there were 231 children (under the age of 18) who are trafficking victims annually in Seattle. This number resulted in a prevalence estimate of youth (under the age of 24) who have been trafficked in the Seattle area of 500 to 700. Both reports can be viewed on the King County CSEC [website](#).

It is widely acknowledged that both the 2008 and 2019 Boyer reports are profound undercounts of the CSE youth population in Seattle/King County. Dr. Boyer identified youth who were connected to social service providers. All CSE youth who had not connected to a provider were not included in this prevalence estimate. [The Seattle/King County Point-in-Time County of Persons Experiencing Homelessness in 2019](#), provides an estimated 1,089 individuals were unaccompanied youth and young adults. While all youth experiencing homelessness are not trafficked, it does drastically increase the risk factors that can lead to trafficking.

### **C. Describe the overall project goals. What is the project trying to accomplish?**

The stated mission of the CSEC Task Force and the CSEC Program is to ensure the safety and support of commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and to prevent further victimization. This goal is achieved via multiple pillars.

First, there is extensive training that is provided at no cost. There are now seven free anti-trafficking trainings in King County. Six of these trainings build off of base knowledge gained by attendees of [Responding to the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth](#). This curriculum was developed by Ms.

Leslie Briner. Second, trained individuals are equipped to identify and respond appropriately to trafficked children. They can connect with youth and refer them to the appropriate specialized services delivered via the “community advocate” model. The Bridge Collaborative is a collaboration amongst five local nonprofit youth serving agencies to provide trauma informed community-based care for CSE youth. Acknowledging that each individual requires an individualized approach to advocacy, the King County CSEC Policy and Program Manager keeps an [updated list of advocates and agencies](#) on the website. Third, there is a community education platform. A more knowledgeable community leads to better identification, better outreach, and better advocacy. One aspect of this approach has been the development of a King County CSEC [Podcast](#). Fourth, there is a continued push to collaborate, partner, and to expand the reach of the King County CSEC Task Force. Since the first meeting of the King County CSEC Task Force in April 2013, individuals from 122 different organizations, government departments, and community providers have attended a Task Force meeting. The fifth pillar, which relies upon the progress created in our community by previous four pillars, is ConnectUP. [ConnectUP](#) is a specialized foster care program for trafficked youth.

Identification and responding to commercial sexual exploitation is not enough. In order to actually prevent further exploitation, we need to address the demand for commercial sex. As such, there is great collaboration and partnership with the King County Prosecuting Attorney as well as local and federal law enforcement. King County CSEC Program acknowledges that ending the demand for commercial sex is the only way to truly end the sex trafficking of children.

Furthermore, there is a continued push by all parties in the King County CSEC Program to be truly survivor centered. This is a constant process of learning. We strive to walk as allies with survivors. We know that we cannot call ourselves allies, as that is a label of recognition given to us by survivors. We wish to take this moment to publicly thank all of the survivors who have publicly and privately contributed to the anti-trafficking work in King County. Thank you.

#### **D. Describe the target population.**

The stated target population of the grant was “child welfare-involved youth who are at risk for or who have been sexually exploited for money or resources”. However, our local services providers offer community-based advocacy via the Bridge Collaborative to any youth ages 12 to 24 who is either at risk of commercial sexual exploitation or who has been exploited. Youth do not need to be state dependent or engaged in the child welfare system to receive services. Often, upon initial identification, youth have had unclear guardianship and connecting all youth to services was preferable than a potentially delayed connection after verifying child welfare connection. However, we have found that a significant percentage of the youth who have been referred to services and the youth who have engaged in services have had contact with the child welfare system during their life. See charts below for detailed numbers of identified and referred youth from the child welfare system.

#### **E. Describe the organization that runs the project and the organizations that are members of the cross-system partnership and their role.**

The key organizations involved in implementing this grant are King County Superior Court, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, the Center for Children and Youth Justice, YouthCare, and the University of Washington. The following section details each organization.

King County Superior Court provided grant oversight and implementation. King County Superior Court is an innovative court that has provided services to youth in need through various programs, including the CSEC Program. In recent years, our Court has focused on applying effective approaches and evidence-based practices to serve our youth while also aiming to reduce recidivism and time in detention. These

approaches stress a collaborative, multidisciplinary problem-solving approach aimed to address the underlying causes of a youth's behavior while also holding them accountable for their actions. King County Juvenile Court is a national model for providing effective programs and services to youth and families involved in the juvenile justice system. The Court acknowledges the fact that the more a youth is involved in the juvenile justice system, the more likely they are to reoffend. For the well-being of the youth and the community as a whole, our Court emphasizes early intervention, diversion, and service delivery.

King County Superior Court's goal is to adopt approaches, processes, and evidence-based therapeutic strategies that enhance individual and public outcomes to resolve cases involving treatment needs and difficult family issues. King County Superior Court is achieving its goal by the implementation of the following strategies:

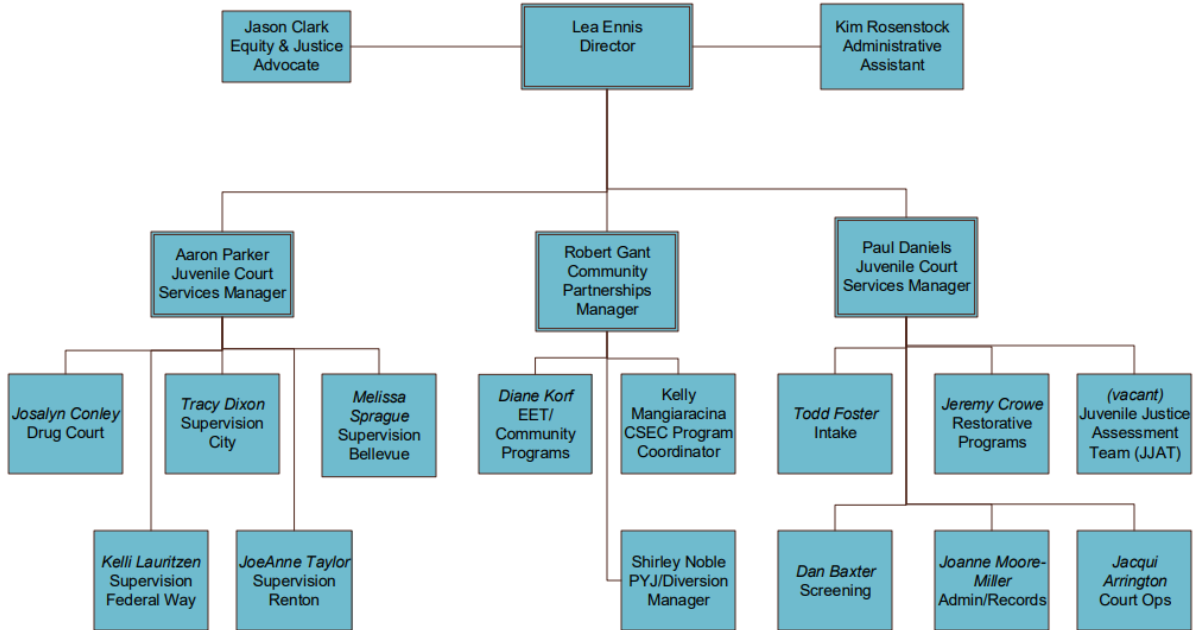
- Integrate a judicial therapeutic approach into Drug Court and Family Treatment Court;
- Promote early and long-term resolution of cases involving families and children;
- Continue to adopt and implement evidence-based outcomes and regularly monitor performance measures in these courts. Re-evaluate best practices based upon data;
- Provide judicial support and leadership for therapeutic alternatives;
- Provide effective monitoring and oversight of guardianships and cases involving vulnerable adults;
- Consider legislative changes regarding appropriate forums for resolution of anti-harassment cases;
- Provide sufficient and continuous judicial training on new developments in problem-solving courts and methods for resolution.

King County Superior Court has a governance structure and process that move the court toward common goals, inclusive of court staff and constituencies. King County Superior Court effectively serves the youth and families of the region through its focus on collaborative efforts to address the complex needs of our diverse community.

King County Superior Court - Juvenile Court is comprised of three divisions (Juvenile Services, Probation Services, and Juvenile Treatment Services) under the leadership of the Director of Juvenile Court Services. The King County CSEC Program is housed under the Community Partnerships Manager. Juvenile Court Services' annual budget totals \$15.9 million, of which approximately 75 percent is funded by King County government and the remaining 25 percent is funded by state, federal, and private foundation grants. Juvenile Court Services employs 141 full and part-time staff. The organization of King County Superior Court – Juvenile Court structure is visually represented in the following chart.

## Chart One: Juvenile Court Services – April 2019

Juvenile Court Services – April 2019



Names in *italics* denote Supervisor for the respective units

Names in (parentheses) denote Interim assignments

Washington State’s Department of Children Youth and Families, with staff in 46 field offices, works with children and families to identify their needs and develop a plan for services that support family sustainability and assure the safety and well-being of children. These services are designed to reduce the risk of abuse, find safe alternatives to out-of-home placement, and assure the safety and permanency for children in care.

Services to support families in crisis and at risk of disruption and services to care for children in placement are provided primarily by community agencies and foster parents. Over 60 percent of the DCYF’s budget is used to fund services provided by non-employees, with over 50 percent of the total budget used for contracted client and professional services and 14 percent of the total budget for cost reimbursement to foster parents. In addition, private child placing agencies provide adoption services and foster care to some youth in the custody of DCYF.

DCYF collaboratively plans available services with a variety of interested local organizations and governmental entities (local, regional, Tribal and national) to determine unmet client needs and plan for efficient service delivery. DCYF works with regional service networks, community-based service providers, and community networks to provide quality services to meet the unique needs of families. Community Child Protection Teams and Child Fatality Review Teams review high-risk cases and provide a foundation for a community response to meet client needs and improve local systems supporting families and protecting children.

The Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ) is a 501(c)(3) founded in 2006 by former Washington State Supreme Court Justice Bobbe J. Bridge and is directed by a twelve-member Board of Directors. Upon her retirement from the Supreme Court in 2008, Justice Bridge became CCYJ's Founding President/CEO. With a mission *to advance justice for and enhance the lives of children and youth through juvenile justice, child welfare, and related systems reform*, CCYJ is focused on improving outcomes for Washington State's most vulnerable children. With an annual budget of \$3.0 M, CCYJ is supported by individual donors, public funding and Foundation grants. Included among CCYJ funders are: the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Stuart Foundation, the Giddens Foundation, Casey Family Programs, the Seattle Foundation, King County United Way, the Washington State Partnership Council on Juvenile Justice, the Children's Justice Interdisciplinary Task Force, University of Michigan and the National Center for State Courts. Over the past decade CCYJ has directed projects that: reformed Washington's juvenile justice system in the areas of truancy reform, mental health and juvenile justice, disproportionate minority contact, multi-system collaboration/coordination and juvenile indigent defense (Models for Change); developed and piloted a best-practice protocol when working with victims of commercially sexually exploited children (Project Respect); addressed infant mental health to improve outcomes for infants and toddlers involved in the child welfare system (Supporting Early Connections), improved legal representation for children involved in the child welfare system (Quality Improvement Centers), provided civil legal representation for former foster youth (Lawyers Fostering Independence) improved school engagement and reduced risk of involvement in delinquent behavior for high risk Latino youth (Avanza), address the needs of LGBTQ youth involved in Washington's child welfare and juvenile justice systems (the eQuality Project); created a coordinated response to youth violence in suburban King County (Suburban King County Coordinating Council on Gangs) and supports the development of gender-specific programming for girls involved in the juvenile justice system (Girls + Justice).

YouthCare is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that has been a leader in providing effective services to Seattle's homeless youth since 1974. Its mission is to build confidence and self-sufficiency for homeless youth by providing a continuum of care that includes outreach, basic services, emergency shelter, housing, counseling, education, and employment training. YouthCare's annual budget is \$16 million, and funding sources include federal, state and local agencies; foundations; and private donations.

YouthCare has worked with CSEC since it was founded, and its work has evolved over the last 45 years. In 1999, YouthCare began working with Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) victims of CSE through Pathways, a transitional living program that maintained nine beds for females and males under age 18.

In 2013, YouthCare transitioned to the Bridge Continuum to serve youth and young adults, ages 12-24, who are victims of CSE. The continuum consists of four phases: 1) identification and engagement, 2) community and detention-based case management, 3) emergency shelter services, and 4) residential recovery program.

*Phase 1—identification and engagement* is designed to identify youth who are being sexually exploited, assess for safety and living situation, and build rapport with the youth.

*Phase 2—community and detention-based case management* is designed to build trust and support youth in navigating the juvenile justice system and in accessing community resources and support to increase safety and harm reduction strategies. This phase includes a case management program in King County Juvenile Detention for youth who are victims of or at high risk for CSE and partnerships with King County Sexual Assault Resource Center and International Rescue Committee.



*Phase 3—emergency shelter services* is designed to build healthy relationships with youth and to provide shelter, basic needs, and assessment, in addition to supporting the long-term recovery program as an entry, respite, and re-entry point for youth accessing residential services. This phase includes two designated beds for CSE youth under 18 years of age and need emergency shelter or respite beds for up to 21 days.

*Phase 4—residential recovery program* is designed to holistically support youth to build skills, develop healthy relationships, decrease the effects of trauma and victimization, and, ultimately, create a life outside of the sex trade and free from victimization. The program includes program environment and core activities (specialized education, employment, and job training, life skills, creative and recreational activities, and physical activity); clinical services (clinical assessment, individual Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, group therapy, individual and group drug/alcohol counseling, psychological evaluation, and assessment for medication, as needed); and subculture integration (pro-social skill building, weekly subculture group, development of positive support network, peer support, incentives, and motivation-based programming). This phase includes Seattle Public Schools Interagency Academy – North Campus, the first public school in the U.S. developed specifically for CSE youth.

The University of Washington and Dr. Michael Pullmann, Ph.D. and his team provided all evaluation activities.

The University of Washington School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences has a history of productive and successful partnerships with public organizations (most prominently, Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Mental Health) and private foundations. The Department of Children Youth and Families has contracted with this department to serve as a purveyor of EBP training, coaching, fidelity monitoring, and evaluation for DCYF-contracted services. Dr. Pullmann is a nationally-recognized leader in conducting evaluations and longitudinal studies of system collaboration and communication projects that serve youth with complex needs across multiple systems, such as studies of the Wraparound process and Systems of Care for children’s mental health.

King County Superior Court (KCSC) was the primary applicant for this grant. KCSC is a court of general jurisdiction with responsibility for the following matters that occur within the geographical borders or King County Washington: all civil matters involving more than \$300, unlawful detainers, injunctions, felony criminal cases, misdemeanor criminal cases not otherwise provided for by law, probate and guardianship matters, mental illness and involuntary commitment matters, juvenile offender matters, juvenile dependencies, including abused and neglected children, child in need of services petitions, at-risk youth petitions, truancies, family law matters including dissolutions, child support, adoptions, parentage, and domestic-violence protection matters.

DCYF R4 has responsibility for administering the child welfare programs throughout the geographical area of King County, Washington. These include dependencies and child in need of services petitions for temporary placement outside the home.

A strong partnership has existed for years between KCSC, DCYF R4, and YouthCare’s Bridge Collaborative. This partnership continues to exist and has been strengthened with the added work of the ConnectUP program.

**F. Describe strategies used to create formal agreements across agencies and service providers (e.g. IRB, data sharing agreements, contracts, MOU, etc.).**

As the King County CSEC Task Force and CSEC Program have grown, it has become apparent that an MOU for the entire Task Force is not practical or even possible. MOUs for smaller aspects of Task Force and CSEC Program work are signed as those partnerships develop.

- The Bridge Collaborative has a signed MOU between YouthCare, NEXUS Youth and Families, Friends of Youth, Kent Youth and Family Services, and Organization for Prostitution Survivors.
- SENECA has signed an MOU with Highline Public Schools to provide supportive services.
- King County Superior Court, Department of Children, Youth, and Families, and YouthCare have a signed MOU for grant purposes. This has been a benefit on data collection issues.
- ConnectUP has a signed MOU between the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, King County Superior Court, Casey Family Programs, the YMCA Accelerator, and YouthCare.

Washington State Institutional Review Board approval was necessary due to the involvement of clients and staff from the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice systems. Other data was provided by YouthCare and the Washington State Center on Court Research (WSCCR). The evaluator reached out to the primary contacts from these organizations, who agreed on the general data elements to be provided and placed him in contact with the data managers, who helped him determine the specific data elements. The IRB proposal was submitted and sent to each administrations' leadership for approval. Securing this approval required some nudging from system contacts, likely because it was not a high priority for leadership.

Because of the long-standing relationship between King County Juvenile Court and Department of Children, Youth, and Families, and the Uniting for Youth collaboration, a [resource sharing guide](#) had previously been created. This guide is helpful for new staff learning what information can be provided across agencies.

### **III. Overview of Program Model**

#### **A. Plan of Action: Objective & Scope of the Project**

King County, in collaboration with Washington State's Department of Children Youth and Families Regions 3 & 4, the regional child welfare agency, sought to reduce the risk of child welfare youth becoming involved in commercial sexual exploitation by improving the multi-system response to better identify and serve this population. This was accomplished by: 1) enhancing the CSEC program by creating a unique focus on the child welfare population; 2) collaborating with DCYF R3&4, implementing strategies targeting early identification, prevention/intervention and retrieval.

#### **B. Functions & Activities**

For a visual representation of proposed funded activities, please see [Logic Model](#).

#### ***Enhancing King County's CSEC program by creating a unique focus on the child welfare population:***

In 2013 King County Superior Court was selected by the Center for Children & Youth Justice (CCYJ, a CJA grantee) as one of six sites to implement a CSEC protocol. The King County Protocol was to be adapted from the [Washington State Model Protocol](#) for CSEC produced by CCYJ. The CCYJ Model Protocol was developed after conducting extensive research on best practice and convening multiple mini-summits to obtain input from key stakeholders throughout the state. The goals of the Washington State protocol are to end commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors in Washington State, by fostering collaboration and coordination among agencies, improving identification of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors, providing services to victims and survivors, and holding exploiters accountable. Implemented in April 2013, the King County protocol introduces a victim-centered approach to be utilized by law enforcement, the courts, victims' advocacy organizations,

youth service agencies, and other youth-serving professionals to ensure that victims of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking are recognized, and treated, as victims rather than as criminals.

The King County CSEC Program has been integrated into Juvenile Court and housed under the Community Partnerships Manager. The CSEC Program has a single employee, a Policy and Program Manager, who provides training, policy development, community connections, collaboration, and referrals to services. The CSEC Program and referral process is designed to be individually responsive to each youth. This victim-centered, or person-centered, response mandates that each youth be treated with respect and consideration of their unique life experiences and circumstances. Under the current process, a youth is identified as CSEC or at risk of CSEC and referred to services. Referrals have been made by local law enforcement, juvenile court, DCYF, local schools, community service providers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, health care providers, and treatment service providers.

Referrals are made by calling the CSEC hotline at 1.855.400.CSEC or sending an email to [CommunityAdvocate@YouthCare.org](mailto:CommunityAdvocate@YouthCare.org). The CSEC hotline and Community Advocate email address are posted on the Warning Signs a Child is at Risk for Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSE), which has been widely distributed throughout King County, both in English and Spanish, to increase awareness and identification of trafficked youth. Also, both versions can be found online [here](#). Since the implementation of the single phone number/email referral on April 1, 2014 through the end of the grant period on September 30, 2019, 956 referrals have been made. These referrals have led to the enrollment of 301 unique youth in services.

Immediately upon receiving the referral, the community advocate works with the referrer to assess critical needs including safety and youth placement. While triaging the situation the referrer and the community advocate make all referrals to appropriate agencies such as CPS or local law enforcement. Once immediate concerns are addressed, the community advocate works with the youth to determine what other agencies are already engaged with the youth. For example, a youth referred through the hotline may have significant involvement with juvenile justice and be connected with a Juvenile Probation Counselor, a DCYF social worker, a substance use provider, and a defense attorney. The community advocate will identify four key areas of concern: identifying any immediate needs requiring law enforcement or CPS involvement; determining if there is a trusted service provider or responsible adult, such as a trusted teacher, currently involved in the youth's life; identifying any goals or needs in the youth's life that are not being adequately addressed; and assessing if the identified youth is willing to engage with the community advocate.

Engagement in services is voluntary; the identified youth determines if they are willing to participate. Allowing the youth to decide whether to enroll in services leads to better rapport-building and more sustainable relationships between the advocate and youth, as well as a sense of self-empowerment for participants. If a youth chooses not to engage at the first point of contact, the advocate continues to connect to the youth through informal gatherings, such as meet-ups at local coffee shops, until a time when the youth may decide to enroll in the program. During the initial period of engagement, the community advocate continually assesses the needs of the youth. As of this writing there are more than a dozen advocates across various agencies in King County with the Bridge Collaborative having 6.0 FTE Community Advocates.

If a need is identified that requires the intervention of a multidisciplinary team, one is immediately formed around the youth to address the issues of concern.

As the MDTs are designed to be victim- or person- centered, they are individualized and no single MDT is fully representative of the general structure. This was, and is, a confusing concept to express in a training model or communications to possible MDT members. A significant portion of the evaluation of

our Program looked at MDTs. In 2019, the King County Special Assault Protocol for the Children’s Justice Center of King County “Ellie’s Place” was updated and for the first time includes CSEC. As a result, the CJCKC now facilitates a monthly CSEC MDT. This meeting takes place at the Youth Services Center and attendees include representatives from local and federal law enforcement, the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, the Bridge Collaborative, and DCYF. Ad hoc CSEC MDTs are also facilitated out of the CJCKC on an as needed basis.

A less structured MDT type meeting occurs twice a month via the ConnectUP program. These MDT staffings are only available for youth with open DCYF files. These [ConnectUP Consultations](#) are more focused on service needs and less focused on the prosecution of criminal charges.

The CSEC Program is acutely aware of the importance of maintaining confidentiality of all participant youth. Within the updated King County Special Assault Protocol for the Children’s Justice Center of King County, confidentiality requirements are clearly delineated. In the ConnectUP Consultations, initials are used and client names are never disclosed.

Prior to the implementation of the grant, the King County CSEC Program did not incorporate policy or practice that specifically targets child welfare system-involved youth. The hiring of the DCYF CSEC Liaison in Regions 3 & 4 allowed for a specialized CSEC resource and response but only in those regions.

To better serve King County’s child welfare population, the King County CSEC Program worked closely with the DCYF Liaison to implement the following strategies that established a stronger working relationship with DCYF R3&4. The CSEC Liaison oversaw DCYF R3&4’s implementation of CSEC policy and procedures and served as the point of contact for all CSEC related questions within DCYF R3&4.

***Expanding the King County Systems Integration Initiative:***

In the original grant proposal much was made of the King County CSEC Program formally joining Uniting for Youth and updating the Information Sharing Guide to include CSEC specific references. In fact, UfY was mentioned thirty times in the original grant proposal. Sadly, Uniting for Youth has not met in the last two years. There was both a disruption in the coordination of the program and a lack of commitment from the steering committee to continue the partnership without ongoing paid staff coordination. There was never a formal announcement pausing UfY, meetings simply stopped. However, it appears that in 2020, there may be paid staff to coordinate the program and a recommitment of the steering committee to recommence meetings. If meetings recommence, the CSEC Program Manager and CSEC Liaison will attend.

Because UfY has paused, the last CSEC training that was provided via the UfY model was in October 2017. Additionally, as there was no UfY, there was no UfY information sharing guide update subcommittee and a 3rd edition was never created.

Fortunately, the CSEC Program Manager from Juvenile Court and the CSEC Liaison from DCYF R3&4 are adaptable and continued to work together without the formal UfY partnership. They maintained the relationships they began in UfY and there has not been a disruption in services or training. Also, the inclusion of CSEC issues in the King County Special Assault Protocol for the Children’s Justice Center of King County surpasses the inclusion in the information sharing guide.

***Collaborating with DCYF, implementing strategies targeting prevention/early intervention and connection to services:***

The King County CSEC Program’s focus primarily is that of identification and providing supports and interventions that serve as an exit strategy, allowing for trafficked youth to exit the exploitation. DCYF R3&4 implemented the following strategies to improve DCYF R3&4 staff knowledge of CSEC, to incorporate prevention/early intervention activities, and to and enhance recovery programs:

### **Training:**

All DCYF R3&4 social workers and administrators were required to attend training, specifically the “[Responding to the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth](#)”. This curriculum was developed by Ms. Leslie Briner but provided to DCYF R3&4 either by the Alliance for Child Welfare or the CSEC Liaison. This training helped to ensure that all staff at DCYF are better equipped to respond to identified CSEC cases.

To supplement in-person trainings, a set of [videos](#) were produced. Additionally, the CSEC Liaison hired in 2014, developed the “[And Boys Too](#)” training which was offered to DCYF R3&4 social workers and administrators. These additional trainings were not required but were highly encouraged.

Additionally all trainings supported by the King County CSEC Task Force, are available to DCYF staff who make the proactive decision to attend. These trainings options include six additional trainings: [And Boys Too](#), [Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing](#), [Engaging Men to End Commercial Sexual Exploitation](#), [At the Margins: the Sex Trafficking of LGBTQ+ Youth](#), [Survivor Centered Programming](#), and [Queer Like Me](#).

### **Screening:**

This grant was instrumental in creating the CSEC specific [DCYF Screening Tool](#). This tool is a one-page case file review. All children age 11 and older are screened when dependency is established. This screen is performed by the Child Health and Education Tracking (CHET) social workers. Additional screens are conducted when a child returns from a run episode. This screen is performed either by the assigned social worker or the assigned Missing from Care (MfC) social worker. A screen is also performed whenever DCYF have concerns that a child might be trafficked.

The screening tool will then designate a child with one of three potential variables: confirmed CSEC, indicated CSEC, or no CSEC indicated. This variable is viewable in the child’s electronic DCYF file.

### **Referral to services / ConnectUP:**

Youth in DCYF R3&4 who screened either at high risk or confirmed were reported to the DCYF CSEC Liaison. The CSEC Liaison would make the appropriate referrals to service providers. Youth in King County were referred to the Bridge Collaborative. Youth in Region 3 were referred to highly trained local providers in that region.

Youth in King County were also available to participate in the ConnectUP Program. ConnectUP is a formal partnership between DCYF, King County Superior Court, Casey Family Programs, YouthCare, the YMCA Accelerator, and the Organization for Prostitution Survivors. A [website](#) was developed for ConnectUP. This website provides clarification of program elements for [current caregivers](#), [DCYF staff](#), and [potential foster parents](#). ConnectUP offers staffings, case consults, youth groups, one on one consultations with a subject matter expert, a CSEC specific child and family therapist, and access to the ConnectUP bed at YouthCare’s Hope Center.

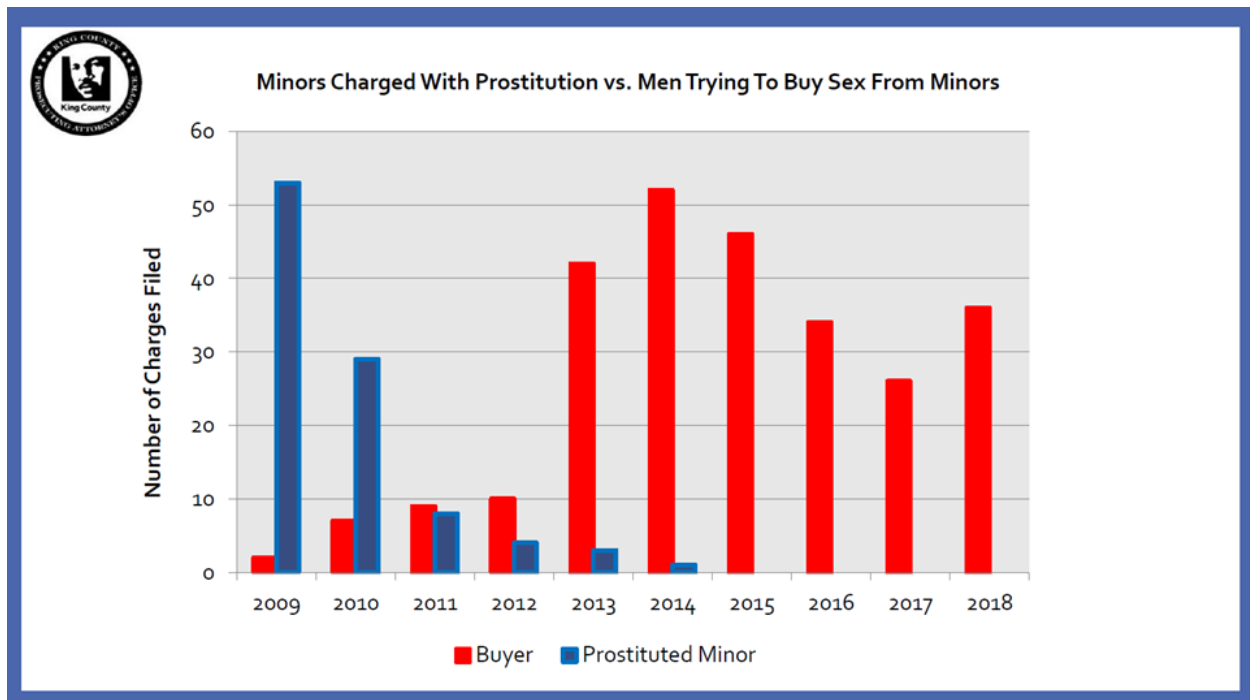
### **Referral to law enforcement:**

Additionally, as a result of the partnership between the DCYF CSEC Liaison and the FBI, the Child Exploitation Task Force also received referrals on identified youth. This partnership was so successful that the FBI is seeking to formalize a partnership with DCYF across all of Washington State.

***Collaborating with Law Enforcement and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office to address the demand for commercial sex.***

The following picture is most illustrative of the work done in King County by local and federal law enforcement and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (KCPAO).

**Chart Two: Minors Charged with Prostitution vs. Men Trying to Buy Sex from Minors 2009 – 2018  
King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office**



Back in 2009, over fifty children (under age 18) were charged with the crime of prostitution. They were criminalized for their own victimization. At the same time, extremely few adults were charged with buying access to those very same children.

As discussed above, it is still possible to arrest and charge youth with the crimes of prostitution and prostitution loitering in Washington State. We do not yet have true Safe Harbor laws. However, local policy and policing practices have drastically altered our landscape, even without formal legislative changes. No child has been charged with prostitution in King County since 2014.

In 2019, as of this writing, the KCPAO has filed the following charges. One case of Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (CSAM) with an actual child victim. Thirty-three cases of Attempted Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (ACSAM) as the result of buyer stings. Five cases of Promoting the Commercial Sexual Abuse of a Minor (PCSAM) with eight unique child victims. All youth were referred to services.

Looking at the above chart and the additional 2019 data, the incidence rate of CSAM and CSAM related charges is increasing after a slight dip in 2015, 2016, 2017. We do not believe this to mean that the actual rate of child sex trafficking is increasing. We firmly believe that more charges are the direct result of better coordination, communication, and partnerships in the King County area. In King County, we believe that in order to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children, we need to end the demand for commercial sex. Therefore, there is an ongoing commitment by our local law enforcement agencies, particularly the King County Sheriff's Office, Seattle Police Department High Risk Victims' Section, Renton Police Department, Kent Police Department, and the Tukwila Police Department. These departments and others, working in partnership with the FBI have provided a consistent source of referrals to the KCPAO that are then prosecuted as felony charges.

### **C. Infrastructure Building**

***King County Superior Court and Department of Social & Health Services/Children's Administration Partnership:*** Starting in December 2004 with the launch of the Uniting for Youth (UfY) Systems Integration Initiative, King County Superior Court (KCSC) and King County Superior Court/Juvenile Court Services (JCS) have established a solid partnership with the Washington State Department Of Children Youth and Families Regions 3 & 4 (DCYF R3&4). UfY was staffed by a Systems Integration Coordinator, the cost of which was divided between DSHS, King County Superior Court and the King County Executive's Office. It should be noted that originally this position was funded through a MacArthur Foundation grant. Key leaders from the state and county recognized the importance of UfY and therefore after the grant expired the position was sustained using the above blend of public funding. In addition to UfY's co-chairs, the Director of Juvenile Court Services and the DCYF R3&4 Regional Administrator, and their represented organizations, UfY's Executive Steering Committee membership included leaders from King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, King County Juvenile Probation Services, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency, King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the Puget Sound Educational Services District, DSHS/Developmental Disabilities Administration, DSHS/Juvenile Justice & Rehabilitation Administration and many private service providers.

When UfY paused, the CSEC Program Manager and CSEC Liaison continued to partner without the formality of the UfY structure. They outreached Ellie's Place, the Child Advocacy Center of King County and were successful in incorporating CSEC into the updated King County Sexual Assault Protocol.

***Task Force Meetings:*** The CSEC Program Manager sought to increase infrastructure building by developing the King County CSEC Task Force. As mentioned above, one hundred and twenty two different organizations participate in Task Force meetings, between October 2014 and September 2019. Quarterly Meetings were held on Wednesday October 29, 2014; Friday January 30, 2015; Friday May 1, 2015; Friday July 31, 2015; Tuesday October 27, 2015; Friday January 29, 2016; Friday April 29, 2016; Friday July 29, 2016; Friday October 28, 2016; Friday January 27, 2017; Friday April 28, 2017; Friday July 28, 2017; Friday October 27, 2017; Friday February 2, 2018; Friday April 27, 2018; Friday July 27, 2018; Friday October 26, 2018; Friday February 1, 2019; Thursday, May 2, 2019; and Friday July 26, 2019. Quarterly meetings have continued after the grant expired, with the latest meeting held on Friday October, 25, 2019.

On Friday April 27, 2018, the Task Force held a five-year anniversary celebration where Task Force Members celebrated local progress in fighting trafficking and had a very candid conversation about unmet goals and how much work was left to be done. Below is a photo of the celebration.



One aspect of the Task Force structure that has been problematic is the stated desire for subcommittees without the coinciding effort required to sustain subcommittees. Task Force members repeatedly requested a subcommittee structure. The CSEC Program Manager who also acts as Coordinator of the Task Force coordinated each requested subcommittee. She requested that a Task Force member act as a voluntary chair of each subcommittee. Some subcommittees flourished while others floundered. The clear differentiation in success rates was almost exclusively tied to which subcommittees were populated by paid staff.

The Boys Subcommittee which included the CSEC Program Manager, DCYF CSEC Liaison and staff from CCYJ was highly successful and is currently working on creating a training video and website focusing exclusively on the male survivor trafficking narrative. The Evaluation Subcommittee also had paid staff attending, with Dr. Pullmann from the University of Washington leading staff from YouthCare, Juvenile Court, and DCYF.

The DCYF Subcommittee which created ConnectUP is arguably the most successful subcommittee. ConnectUP is a formal partnership between DCYF, King County Superior Court, Casey Family Programs, YouthCare, the YMCA Accelerator, and the Organization for Prostitution Survivors. A [website](#) was developed for ConnectUP. This website provides clarification of program elements for [current caregivers](#), [DCYF staff](#), and [potential foster parents](#).

Other subcommittees requested, did not have the same paid staff component and ultimately failed to gain traction.

***Ending Exploitation:*** We cannot document that there has been a decreased entry into trafficking among at risk youth. Despite having the 2008 Boyer report, Seattle/King County did not have a confirmed base line number of youth who were trafficked prior to the grant. Even now, in 2019, even with the updated 2019 Boyer report, we do not have a confirmed number of youth who were trafficked. Therefore, we cannot definitively state that there was a decreased entry into trafficking among at risk youth. Prevalence estimates from any locale, not simply King County, should be viewed with skepticism.

What we can state is that due to collaboration and infrastructure building, there are better services for identified youth and an increased likelihood that traffickers will be held criminally responsible for their actions. The CSEC Program Manager sits on the [Ending Exploitation Collaborative](#), (EEC), a groundbreaking partnership of both governmental and nongovernmental groups working to end commercial sexual exploitation by addressing the demand for commercial sex. In this capacity the CSEC Program Manager works incredibly closely with both the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Washington State Office of the Attorney General. All organizations of the EEC are members of the King County CSEC Task Force.

***Partnerships Beyond the Grant:*** Grant funding has been critical to the increased and improved anti-trafficking work done throughout King County. However, as mentioned above, one hundred and twenty-two organizations have attended Task Force meetings. This grant provided funding for eight organizations



over the course of funding (King County Superior Court, DCYF, POCAAN, Seneca, CCYJ, YouthCare, WSCCR, and the University of Washington).

Task Force membership is purposefully inclusive. Historically smaller organizations, often those that had more survivors on staff, were excluded from decision making. Task Force membership is open to anyone in the local community who can “contribute to the cause.” This structure allows for smaller organizations to have the chance to connect with larger organizations and governmental departments. All Task Force meetings feature a networking component that facilitates connection between individuals doing the work. Often the most important aspect of the Task Force meetings are the connections made and the meetings scheduled outside of the Task Force structure.

As a means of better governmental coordination and collaboration, the King County CSEC Program Manager has a standing monthly meeting with the Planning & Development Specialist from the Seattle Mayor’s Office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. These monthly meetings allow for collaboration across training, funding discussions, and coordination regarding monthly and quarterly CSE stakeholders.

***Training and TA received from outside sources:*** The King County CSEC Task Force was first convened in April 2013 with help and technical assistance from CCYJ. In May of 2013 the Task Force was offered free CSEC 101 training provided by YouthCare. With grant funding YouthCare was able to utilize their existing curriculum as written by Ms. Leslie Briner, to create a Train the Trainer. The CSEC Program Manager attended the first Train the Trainer in 2015. With King County Superior Court funding, this training will continue to be offered at least monthly free of charge and open to the community. Additionally, organizations can request specialized training brought into their locations. This specialized training is also offered free of charge.

#### **D. Strategic Cross-System Coordination and Institutionalized Collaboration**

KCSC’s CSEC Program involves key agencies and organizations critical to the implementation of the Washington State Model Protocol. In addition to KCSC and DCYF R3&4, over one hundred different organizations have attended King County CSEC Task Force meetings. The Task Force acts as the means of connection for any organizations doing anti sex trafficking work in Seattle/King County. The organizations that have attended Task Force meetings include but are not limited to the following: the King County Sheriff’s Office, Seattle Police Department, King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, King County Department of Public Defense, Washington State Office of the Attorney General, YouthCare, Nexus Youth and Family Services, Friends of Youth, Public Health – Seattle & King County, King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress. Survivors have attended every single Task Force meeting. Survivors are encouraged to identify however they feel most comfortable. Therefore, it is not uncommon to have over a dozen survivors present, but only one or two publicly identify as such. Others identify as service providers, executive directors, students, community members, etc. The Task Force convenes meetings for participants on a quarterly basis.

The [Mission](#) of the Task Force is “to ensure the safety and support of commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and to prevent further exploitation. The Task Force works to accomplish its mission by: 1) Training those who may come into contact with CSEC to recognize and identify them; 2) Establishing criteria for multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) which will provide and coordinate services specific to each child; 3) Providing continuing training to and fostering communication among members of the MDTs and other partners in the community; 4) Formally incorporating the MDT process into Ellie’s Place, the Child Advocacy Center of King County ; and 5) Collecting and evaluating data in conjunction with community partners and developing an outcomes analysis that will help determine best practices.

To date over 4,500 individuals in Washington State have received the [Responding to Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth](#) training, with the CSEC Liaison personally training over 1,000 individuals. These numbers do not include those trained by the Alliance for Child Welfare and are part of an optional reporting mechanism. The actual number of individuals trained is substantially higher. These trainings are multi-hour at a minimum but often 6 full hours of content. These trainings in King County are always provided at no cost.

Those who wish to attend additional free training can access the training tab at the King County CSEC website and select one of six additional trainings: [And Boys Too](#), [Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing](#), [Engaging Men to End Commercial Sexual Exploitation](#), [At the Margins: the Sex Trafficking of LGBTQ+ Youth](#), [Survivor Centered Programming](#), and [Queer Like Me](#).

One hundred and twenty-two organizations have attended task force meetings. The Task Force email list is now over four hundred individuals. The CSEC Program Manager who also acts as the Task Force Coordinator has worked to have a personal relationship with each and every organization and individual who attends meetings, or receives emails.

#### **E. Legislative Efforts Impacting Human Trafficking Efforts**

***Washington State Laws and Policies Addressing Minor Victims of Human Trafficking:*** In 2010, pursuant to the passage of [ESSB 6476](#) (C 289 L10) Washington State enacted laws revising provisions relating to sex crimes involving minors. The revised statute:

- Mandates diverting a juvenile whose case is legally sufficient to be charged with a prostitution-related offense when it is the juvenile's first referral for prostitution.
- Provides that for subsequent prostitution referrals, the prosecutor may divert the case if the county in which the alleged offense is alleged to have been committed has a comprehensive CSEC intervention program;
- Provides that minors involved in commercial sexual abuse are considered victims of a criminal act and are eligible to receive benefits from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund;
- Includes "a child who is sexually trafficked" in the definition of a Child In Need of Services (CHINS), thus making them eligible for a filing CHINS petition;
- Requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission, in consultation with the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, to implement a model policy for law enforcement officers dealing with sexually exploited children;
- Requires secure and semi-secure crisis residential centers, as well as HOPE centers, to have on staff, or direct access to a person, who has been trained to work with sexually exploited children;
- Requires that youth diverted for an alleged offense of prostitution who are referred to Children's Administration, are connected with services and treatment for child sexual abuse; and
- Increases the serious level for commercial sexual abuse of a minor from being a class C to a class B felony.

In 2013, legislation (SSB 5308, [RCW 7.68.801](#)) was enacted to create a CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee. Housed in the Office of the Attorney General, the Committee addresses increasing protections for exploited youth by examining local and regional practices, in conjunction with incidence data, to make recommendations on statewide laws and policies. Committee members include representatives from the Attorney General's Office, the Legislature, state and local agencies, criminal justice entities and advocacy organizations. The Chair of the King County CSEC Task Force, the King

County CSEC Program Manager, and the DCYF CSEC Liaison all sit on the CSEC Statewide Coordinating Committee.

In 2018 Shared Hope International gave Washington State an overall [A grade](#) for anti-trafficking efforts and Polaris gave Washington State an [F grade](#) for criminal record relief for trafficking survivors. These two divergent grades demonstrate that while Washington State is leading the pack on certain anti-trafficking efforts particularly on providing victim centered services, we have significant room for growth moving forward. The King County CSEC program welcomes constructive criticism as it can spur the develop of new efforts. Already a new organization [Legal Hope](#) was created to address survivor criminal conviction relief.

The 2019 Washington Legislative Session saw the following bills passed:

1. [HB 1382](#) “Increasing access to emergency assistance for victims by providing immunity from prosecution for prostitution offenses in some circumstances.”
2. [HB 1055](#) “Authorizing law enforcement to arrest persons in violation of certain no-contact orders involving victims of trafficking and promoting prostitution offenses.”
3. [SB 5461](#) “Concerning the sharing of information between participants in multidisciplinary coordination of child sexual abuse investigations.”
4. [SB 5649](#) “Adjusting the statute of limitations for sexual assault.”
5. [SB 5885](#) “Creating an exemption to hearsay for child sex trafficking victims.”
6. [HB 1041](#) “Promoting successful reentry by modifying the process for obtaining certificates of discharge and vacating conviction records.”
7. [SB 5290](#) “Eliminating the use of the valid court order exception to place youth in detention for noncriminal behavior.”

True Safe Harbor, eliminating the arrest and charging of prostitution for juveniles, did not pass in 2019. The Safe Harbor bill will be put forward again in 2020.

#### **F. Project Sustainability Plan**

King County Superior Court sees value in the work of the CSEC Program and has added certain grant funded elements to general court funding. Continued funding for the Community Outreach Specialist, the DCYF R3&4 CSEC Liaison, and the CSEC Program Manager were included in the biennium budget of 2019 and 2020. Additionally, the King County CSEC [website](#), has been developed as a way to provide transparent access to information on all aspects of the CSEC Program. A more detailed discussion on funding sustainability can be found below.

#### **G. Dissemination Plan**

Various dissemination strategies have been conceived and implemented over the grant funded period. Listservs, videos, websites, and podcasts have been developed. After multiple efforts and significant trial and error, the King County CSEC [website](#) is now the primary dissemination strategy. The website was launched on September 4, 2019 and as of this writing, has had over fifteen thousand page views by over six thousand unique individuals. The website includes access to most of the reports and presentations made to or about Task Force activities. In fact, this entire report will be linked on the website upon completion.

#### **IV. Evaluation**

**A. Overview of the evaluation & research design, including the process and outcome evaluation.**

The process and outcome evaluation activities, described in detail below, were designed to assess the most relevant aspects of the [logic model](#) in order to 1) provide ongoing data updates to facilitate decision making and project planning for task force members, and 2) provide summative and ongoing analyses of program impact. These activities were conducted across four primary evaluation areas, as consistent with the logic model and grant funding requirements: 1) Infrastructure building, 2) Development and implementation of client data plan and outcome measurement, 3) Cross-system coordination and collaboration, and 4) Youth input. The table below provides an overview of project evaluation activities.

**Chart Three: Evaluation Areas/Data/Progress/Source/Timepoint**

<b>Evaluation area</b>	<b>Data</b>	<b>Process or outcome evaluation</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Timepoint</b>
Infrastructure building	Documenting program activities	Process	CSEC Task Force	Continuous
	Trainings: knowledge gained, satisfaction, number of people trained, organizations receiving training, number of child welfare workers being trained	Process and Outcome	Training satisfaction survey	Pre-post training
	Stakeholder views of functioning and effectiveness of CSEC, community awareness of CSE, facilitators of and barriers to program implementation	Process	Focus groups with Task Force members and major stakeholders	Year 2
	Source and number of referrals	Process	CSEC project staff	Continuous
Development and implementation of a client data plan and outcome measurement	Screening tool or protocol to guide multidisciplinary case planning and decision making	Process	Captured by the community advocate	During client engagement phase
	Client report of safety, interest in more intensive support, service receipt, education/employment, housing stability	Outcome	Provided by client and community advocate (face-to-face interview)	Intake and every 90 days

	<u>Child Welfare</u> (investigations, referral reasons, substantiations, removals and placements, contracted services, exit from care reason); <u>Juvenile Justice</u> (risk assessments, arrests, court hearings, offense, adjudication, diversion, and probation);	Process	Administrative datasets	Annually years 2-5
Cross-system coordination and collaboration	The existence, strength, and direction of each key partner’s relationship	Process and Outcome	Social Network Analysis survey	Years 1, 3, 5
	Collaboration	Process and Outcome	Wilder Collaborative Factors Inventory survey	Years 1, 3, 5
	Fidelity to Multidisciplinary Team collaborative practice recommendations	Process	Multidisciplinary Case Planning fidelity tool	Year 3: Monthly; Years 4-5: Quarterly
	Stakeholder input about cross-system coordination and collaboration	Process	Stakeholder focus groups	Year 2
Youth input	Youth input about CSEC process, procedures, activities, relationships with advocates, barriers and facilitators of service receipt, and outcomes	Process	Youth interviews	Year 2

**B. Process Evaluation**

**B1. Process Evaluation Research Domain #1: Multidisciplinary Case Planning process and fidelity**

**B1a. Research questions**

- Was a “best practices” Multidisciplinary Case Planning (MDCP) process developed and agreed to by service providers/community advocates?
- How adherent were community advocates to the MDCP process?

**B1b. Data collection procedures and data analysis plan**

The evaluation team was tasked with developing the “best practices” document describing Multidisciplinary Team meeting structure, elements and process, and then using this document to develop an adherence measure or adherence checklist to ensure that Community Advocates were using best practices. This was developed through a three stage process. First, the evaluation team conducted a literature review for best practices and quality indicators using selected key words such as “multidisciplinary team”, “wraparound”, “best practices”, “sexual exploitation”, etc. We also held an informal interview with wraparound expert Eric Bruns, PhD, who communicated with his extensive network of nationally recognized professionals to determine if there were any existing best practice models for team based work with the CSEC population. We quickly determined that most CSEC efforts that described multidisciplinary teams were referring to broader policy-level, continuum of care approaches. However, the King County Task Force was interested in describing client-serving multidisciplinary teams, such as Wraparound teams. We identified multiple best practice guidelines for other populations (e.g. Wraparound for youth with mental health needs at risk of residential placement, “Achieve My Plan”, and Support to End Exploitation Now [SEEN]).

Via a series of four open-ended focus-groups with all Community Advocates, occasionally using modified Delphi approach for group decision making, we presented the summary findings from the literature review for their review. Over the course of these meetings it was determined that the advocates generally employed two types of “team meetings” for two different types of clients, which we deemed [“Urgent Need and Crisis Response Multidisciplinary Team”](#) and [“Ongoing Positive Youth Development Multidisciplinary Team”](#). Click on the links for draft versions of these two types of team meetings. However, it also became very clear that the advocates rarely conducted sit-down team meetings with multiple providers. This was due to the infeasible and impractical nature of bringing together highly busy professionals from multiple settings and service systems in an urgent manner. Instead, advocates engaged in “Multidisciplinary Case Planning”, generally involving multiple phone calls with multiple team members.

Analyses were conducted as follows. We coded the data from these focus groups and developed a list of best practices for MDCP, which we used to develop an extensive checklist that was then narrowed down by the team to include those elements considered most essential. These were developed into a [checklist measure that was completed by the advocates](#) monthly and then quarterly, administered via email link to an online survey. The survey was analyzed via basic frequencies and descriptive statistics.

### **B1c. Findings**

The final core items considered to represent high MDCP fidelity and agreed upon by stakeholders and our literature review are:

- The CA describes the process and confidentiality restrictions before discussing case plans, when working with a new system partner
- The CA describes to partners the immediate need that was the reason for working together
- The CA describes to partners the desired outcomes of the MDCP
- The CA regularly reviews and considers the youth's personal and social strengths
- The CA includes the youth's viewpoint represented in developing plans, if appropriate
- The CA, system partners, and/or the youth (as appropriate) identify a list of possible concrete goals
- The CA, system partners and/or the youth (as appropriate) select only one or a manageable number of concrete goals to address
- Prior to selecting a strategy to address youth's needs, the CA, system partners, and/or the youth (as appropriate) brainstorm more than one possible strategy

- The CA, system partners and/or the youth (as appropriate) review barriers or challenges to implementing possible strategies
- At the end of meeting with system partners and/or the youth, the CA explicitly reviews agreed upon tasks and documents personal assignments for completing tasks
- The CA regularly reviews the progress toward accomplishing the youth's overall goals

A [full report in the Appendix](#) describes the cumulative responses to the MDCP measure. Five different Community Advocates provided a total of 52 responses to the MDCP measure, which asked about the items above as well as the quality of their interactions with system partner. Overall scores were quite high, with the average scores on the items above ranging from 8.6 to 9.5 out of 10. On 28 out of 35 responses, the advocate stated that they had directly worked with service partners for the identified youth in the prior month. These included (in order of frequency) child welfare social workers, behavioral health providers, attorneys, housing case workers, and juvenile probation counselors. When asked to rate their collaboration with service partners, most received high marks (9.25 - 10 on a 10-point scale), with one exception. Child welfare social workers scored lowest with a 7.75 out of 10. See “Multidisciplinary Case Planning Fidelity Measure Results” in the Appendix for more detail on the results.

#### **B1d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

The primary problem encountered turned out to also be a finding. This was the fact that we could not evaluate the implementation of multidisciplinary teams because team meetings rarely happened; it was the multidisciplinary case planning process that was more relevant to work of the community advocates.

#### **B2. Process Evaluation Research Domain #2: Partnership and collaboration**

##### **B2a. Research questions**

- How many organizations participated in our cross-system partnership?
- How many partnership meetings were held?
- How often did our partnership meet?
- Did our partnership have a specialized subcommittee?
- Did our partnership host a formal convening of stakeholders?
- What was the network structure of the cross-system partnership like? Were the central organizations, referral networks, communication networks, and collaboration networks adequate?

##### **B2b. Data collection procedures and data analysis plan**

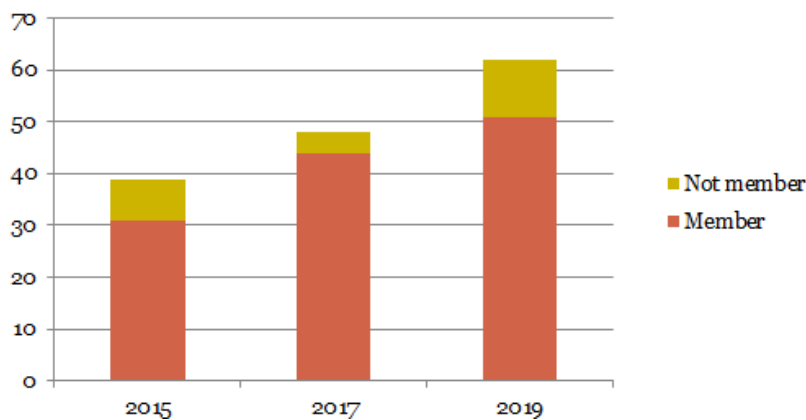
Data on participation in cross-partnership team meetings, number of meetings, and frequency of meetings were collected via calendar, records, and sign-in sheets. Results were analyzed using simple tallies. Data collection on the network structure was collected via a network analysis survey in 2015, 2017, and 2019. The survey asked all CSEC-relevant organizations that had been identified by the task force to rate every other organization on three variables: 1) their level of *awareness* of the other organizations, 2) their level of *referrals* to other organizations, and 3) their level of *communication and collaboration about case planning* with other organizations. Results were analyzed using standard network analysis approaches via the Gephi application. We identified the connection between organizations, the direction of the connections (e.g. Org 1 referred cases to Org 2, but Org 2 did not refer to Org 1, so this was unidirectional), the degree of connectivity of the organizations, and the “betweenness centrality” of the organizations (i.e. how much the organization was a hub or a bridge between other organizations).

## B2c. Findings

For responses to research questions about the frequency of meetings, please see the table below under “common cluster outputs 3.1”.

For the Network Analysis, [detailed findings are provided in a full report in the Appendix](#). The Task Force showed steady growth in the number of relevant organizations that participated in the Task Force activities and the network analysis survey, and the number of organizations that considered themselves to be core members (see Chart Four). This is likely due to the increased outreach available as a result of grant funding. In 2019, there were 62 out of 71 (87%) of organizations responding, which was an increase of 14 organizations from 2017. Results in all three years revealed very high levels of awareness, referrals, and communication.

**Chart Four: Task Force Self-Reported Membership**



The Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF, formerly named Children’s Administration) was the most central organization from 2015 – 2019 for referrals. DCYF both makes and receives referrals to multiple organizations. This illustrates the importance of involving Child Welfare in CSEC efforts and highlights the relevance of the Children’s Bureau grant that is funding these efforts. In 2019, the most central organization for communication about CSEC related cases was DCYF. It steadily increased in centrality throughout the five-year grant period, from the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile, to the 4<sup>th</sup> percentile, to the 1<sup>st</sup> percentile, likely a result of grant funding.

## B2d. Problems encountered during implementation.

Often, the most difficult problem with conducting a network analysis is the response rate. Network analysis suffers from missing data more than most analytic approaches. We had a steadily increasing response rate over the three administrations of the survey, learning from each administration about methods to ensure high response rates, but still did not obtain responses from 19% of organizations that were invited to participate.

## B3. Process Evaluation Research Domain #3: Training

### B3a. Research questions

- How many trafficking trainings were conducted as part of this project?



- How many people were trained during the project period?
- Describe the audience for the trainings (e.g., role, profession, years of experience, required or optional training).
- Can the training be delivered in a train-the-trainer cascading implementation, while maintaining the high quality of the original trainer?

**B3b. Data collection procedures and data analysis plan**

Data on trainings were collected via field notes/calendar scheduling and training surveys. Training surveys were administered via paper surveys or online links using the Qualtrics web-based application. Due to the very large number of trainings conducted in King County and the length of the training survey, training participants were only invited to participate in the survey if the trainings were greater than 3 hours in length. Analyses were conducted using basic frequencies and descriptive information (means, standard deviations) as well as crosstabulations with chi-square tests to compare groups. We ran these tests to compare scores from participants who attended Leslie Briner’s trainings (the developer of the training) to those who attended trainings from other trainers, in order to determine if the trainings were delivered with the same quality.

**B3c. Findings**

See the Appendix for two detailed reports on training survey findings for the process evaluation ([one is for overall results](#), the [other compares the results](#) from participants in Leslie Briner’s trainings to other trainings), and the table below for counts of trainings and people trained. We obtained 750 pre-post matched surveys on participants from trainings that were greater than 3 hours in length, though the actual number of participants was far higher due to nonparticipation in the survey. Participant demographics were 113 male-identified, 508 female identified, 17 identified outside of male/female binary, and 112 were missing. 225 were in child welfare, 15 in juvenile justice, 11 from the legal community, 31 from education, 77 from mental health, 6 from law enforcement, 158 were service providers, 15 were community members, 105 were other, and 77 were missing. 201 had less than 1 year of experience in their field of work, 269 had 1-5 years, 71 had 6-10 years, 33 had 11-15 years, 57 had 16 or more years, and 119 were missing the years of experience. When comparing scores from participants who attended Leslie Briner’s training to other trainers, there were no substantive post-training differences between the trainers’ ratings. The results of the outcome evaluation for these surveys are described in sections below.

**B3d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

The largest problem was lack of participation in the surveys (especially post-training), and mistakes made by participants when providing pre and post-survey IDs, which made matching surveys impossible for a small percentage. However, most participants completed pre and post-surveys, so this is considered a small problem.

**B4. Process Evaluation Domain #4: Service experience for trafficked youth--administrative data**

**B4a. Research question**

- What were the lifetime child welfare, juvenile justice, and Bridge Collaborative service experiences for trafficked youth who were identified in child welfare?

**B4b. Data collection procedures and analysis plan**

We obtained lifetime administrative service records on all youth identified as CSEC by Child Welfare in the King County region. These records were provided by the juvenile court and the Washington State Center on Court Research (dates of entry/exit from juvenile detention, reasons for juvenile detention, demographics), child welfare (dates and dispositions of allegations of abuse, removals from the home, placement settings [including runaway episodes]), and the Bridge Collaborative (referrals, entry status, exit status, baseline and 90-day functioning surveys). Analyses were conducted by merging these datasets and running descriptive and time-to-event (“survival”) analyses.

#### **B4c. Findings**

A full [report of the administrative dataset findings is in the Appendix](#). We identified a cohort of 150 youth confirmed or strongly suspected of CSE within the child welfare system, and analyze their lifetime administrative record data from child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Results uncovered early and frequent contact with the child welfare system. Child placement episodes were characterized by instability; on average, youth experienced 27 living situation disruptions while in the care of child welfare, with a disruption occurring an average of every 71 days. The primary reason for disruptions was running away. Nearly 9 out of 10 youth had at least one runaway episode, and within this group there were an average of 8.6 runaway episodes. Three out of four youth had at least one juvenile detention episode, and of this group the average number of detention episodes was 9.2. Primary reasons for detention included running away, fighting, and shoplifting.

#### **B4d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

The biggest challenge was working with the state Institutional Review Board to obtain and retain approval to conduct this study. The far-reaching extent of lifetime administrative data required extensive work with the IRB to ensure that the correct data elements were being obtained, that protections were in place, and that leadership at each agency approved the study.

### **B5. Process Evaluation domain #5: Service experience for trafficked youth--Youth interviews**

#### **B5a. Research questions**

- What are the service experiences of youth receiving services from the Bridge Collaborative Community Advocates?
- What happened to support their use of services? What were barriers to services?
- Did the youth feel respected by the Community Advocate?

#### **B5b. Data collection procedures and analysis plan.**

Youth interviews were conducted in 2016, the second year of the grant. While we originally proposed to also conduct these interviews in 2018, the large difficulties in recruitment, the cost of recruiting, and a relative lack of actionable findings from the youth interviews resulted in our team choosing not to conduct a second round of interviews. Additionally, we originally proposed to conduct focus groups but the evaluation team felt that this would not provide sufficient protection for youth. Due to a desire to provide the highest level of protection for youth confidentiality, the Community Advocate provided youth with whom they served a flyer describing an opportunity to participate. Youth contacted researchers via telephone to inquire about participation, were provided informed consent, and interviewed over the phone. Gift cards as incentives were provided via cell phone. Youth were interviewed using 13 open-ended questions, (e.g. “How did your social worker support you in working with the Community

Advocate”). Transcripts of the interviews were analyzed using a Conventional Content Analysis approach. The interviewer re-read transcripts and made an initial pass at coding each item into themes to develop an initial codebook. Dr. Pullmann then read the transcripts using the codebook and re-coded them. Codes were compared and inconsistencies were discussed and mediated via consensus.

**B5c. Findings.**

We completed interviews with 6 youth, all identifying as female. Youth highlighted the community-based nature of services as essential for reducing barriers to services, remarking that the Community Advocate would meet them wherever she could, rather than requiring office visits. They focused on the trusting, personal relationship they built with the Advocate, and emphasized that they felt connected to their advocate because of similarities, e.g. “She came from the same walk of life that I was going down, so I don’t feel judged at all... Her opening up made me feel a lot more comfortable and I knew I wouldn’t be judged.” The youth remarked on how they received help with obtaining resources (housing, bus passes, rides, clothes, education, etc.). The primary challenges were “phone tagging” and that the CA would refer to services, such as housing assistance, rather than providing the service herself. Youth were asked to rate the CA on a scale from 1-10. Five youth gave the CA a 10, with one youth stating “11 if it was on there”, and one youth stating “a 9, I wouldn’t say 10 because there’s always room for improvement, but she’s like the best person I’ve ever worked with.”

**B5d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

Recruitment was a problem; we aimed to recruit 10-20 youth but only recruited 6, despite multiple attempts using a variety of techniques.

**Chart Five: Common Cluster Outputs**

Common Cluster Outputs	Question	Answer
<b>3.1. Cross-system partnerships are established to develop coordinated responses &amp; practices</b>	On average, how many organizations participated in your cross-system partnership?	122 organizations attended TF meetings.
	How many meetings of your cross-system partnership were held during the project period?	20 Task Force meetings from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2019
	How often did your cross-system partnership meet (e.g., monthly, quarterly)?	Quarterly

	Did your cross-system partnership have specialized sub-committee? If so, please describe.	We attempted a subcommittee structure but struggled with attendance and maintenance. Some met with regularity (Evaluation subcommittee, others.) See “Infrastructure Building.”
	Did you host a formal convening of stakeholders (e.g., Annual Summit)? If so, please describe.	CSEC Program Manager convened and coordinated partner agencies and advocates in Quarterly Task Force Meetings and a 5-year anniversary celebration. See “Infrastructure Building.”
<b>3.3. Number of trainings conducted &amp; number of staff trained</b>	How many trafficking trainings were conducted as part of this project?	Staff paid via this federal grant provide over 400 trainings. The three staff positions responsible for these training were the CSEC Program Manager, the DCYF CSEC Liaison and the CSEC Outreach Specialist. These trainings include Responding to the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth, And Boys Too, and Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing. In March of 2017 CCYJ asked all trainers to submit their sign in sheets from trainings. Since that date 246 sign in sheets, representing 246 trainings have occurred in Washington State.
	How many people were trained during the project period?	We have pre and post-data for non-Child Welfare trainings on 750 people. The number who were trained is less precise but is roughly 1400. For trainings conducted by Child Welfare, there were 4,430 people trained. Additionally, any training under 3 hours did not have a pre or posttest completed. A significant number of trainings were under 3 hours.
	Please describe the audience for the trainings (e.g., role, profession, years of experience, required or optional training).	See section B3
<b>3.4. Number of trauma-focused services &amp; evidence-based practices (EBPs) implemented</b>	How many trauma-focused services and/or EBPs were delivered during the project period?	We did not obtain data on specific EBPs delivered, as this was not a focus of the grant funding and we did not have service records on youth.

	Please describe the trauma-focused services and/or EBPs delivered as part of the project.	We did not obtain data on specific EBPs delivered
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**C. Outcome Evaluation**

**C1. Outcome Evaluation Domain #1: Stakeholder awareness of trafficking**

**C1a. Research questions**

- How many people were trained during the course of the project?
- Did participants in trainings have increased self-reported knowledge, comfort, and attitudes in identifying, reporting, and intervening with CSEC?
- Did participants answer more objective “test” questions correctly after training?

**C1b. Data collection procedures and the data analysis plan**

Participants at all trainings greater than 3 hours in length were administered a paper-and-pencil or online (smartphone) survey before and after the training. This was the same survey used by all grantee sites, asking a battery of self-report questions about participants’ knowledge, comfort, and attitudes about CSEC. Additionally, our site added objective knowledge questions. They were presented with six scenarios and asked to determine whether the scenarios were sex trafficking or not (e.g. “Evie is 17. On her own, she discovered she could make money on the internet by undressing in front of webcams.”). They were also presented with a series of multiple-choice responses about what actions they should take after identifying a youth as CSE (e.g. “Call the Police”, “Offer the youth a place to stay on your couch.”). Analyses included descriptive statistics and paired-samples t-tests.

**C1c. Findings**

A full report of the training survey outcomes is available in the Appendix. There were 750 participants who responded to matched pre and post-surveys. Demographic and descriptive information is described in “Process Evaluation” above. Results demonstrated statistically significant improvements for all three self-rated subscales, and significantly more correct responses to the scenario and action items (see Chart Six).

**Chart Six: Training Pre – Post Survey Analysis**

	<b>Pre-survey Mean (SD)</b>	<b>Post-survey Mean (SD)</b>	<b>t (p)</b>
Mean knowledge score	3.3 (1.5)	6.5 (1.4)	-58.2 (<.001)
Mean belief score	2.3 (1.1)	2.1 (1.2)	5.0 (<.001)
Mean experience and comfort score	4.7 (2.2)	7.0 (1.8)	-34.4 (<.001)

Mean number of correct answers to scenario questions	3.8 (1.0)	4.1 (0.9)	-5.1 (<.001)
Mean number of correct answers to action questions	6.7 (1.1)	7.0 (1.0)	-5.5 (<.001)

**C1d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

The largest problem was lack of participation in the surveys (especially post-training), and mistakes made by participants when providing pre and post-survey IDs, which made matching surveys impossible for a small percentage. However, most participants completed pre and post-surveys, so this is considered a small problem.

One additional issue was late arrival to training. The pre-test was administered at the beginning of the training. If participants arrived more than 20 minutes late, which was not uncommon, they did not participate in the pre-test.

**C2. Outcome Evaluation Domain #2: Service outcomes for trafficked youth**

**C2a. Research questions**

- Of youth who received services from the Bridge Collaborative, what were their outcomes in housing, mental health, safety, employment, education, physical health, and hope for the future?

**C2b. Data collection procedures and analysis plan.**

Data were collected by Bridge Collaborative Community advocates from served youth at baseline and every 90 days that they remained in services. Half of the 20-item survey consisted of questions that the advocate responded to based on their knowledge of the youth (e.g. “How much contact did you have with the youth in the last 90 days?”) and half of the questions the youth directly responded to (e.g. “How often do you stay at a place where you know you will not be physically hurt?”). Because there was a great deal of missing data due to youth leaving services or missing timepoints, we analyze the data in two ways. We provided complete analyses of average scores or proportions at each timepoint using all available data (these did not include statistical tests), and we also ran a series of paired-samples t-tests between each timepoint.

**C2c. Findings**

A full [report of analyses is available in the Appendix](#). We collected a total of 322 separate responses from 211 youth. Reports of safety (“How often do you stay at a place where you know you will not be physically hurt?”) revealed consistent improvement, with 60% responding “all the time” at initial interview increasing to 95% by 360 days. The percentage of youth considered to live in stable housing increased from 22% at initial to 58% at 270 days, and dropped to 42% at 360 days. The number of youth reporting that they had a large number of people in their lives who supported them showed some slight improvement over time, and the percentage of youth who were “likely” or “absolutely certain” to reach out to the advocate for support increased from 35% to 58%. Youth contact with the advocated generally increased over time. The percentage of youth who reached out to the advocate increased from 52% at initial to 85% at 270 days, decreasing somewhat to 70% at 360 days. The percentage of youth who stated they were “Never” or only “sometimes” stressed out (our measure of mental health) improved from 21% at initial to 41% at 360 days. Youth reports of their physical health and school attendance did not show a

consistent change over time. Youth employment and motivation for employment generally increased over time, with the percentage who “had a job that earns a paycheck” increasing from 8% at initial to 40% at 270 days, decreasing a touch to 25% at 360 days. Youth ratings of hopefulness for their future increased over time, with average ratings on a 1-10 scale for “the best possible life” increasing from 5.0 at initial to 6.1 at 270 days.

**C2d. Problems encountered during implementation.**

The primary problem was missing data due to the youth’s inconsistent meetings with community advocates.

**C3. Outcome Evaluation Domain #3: Organizational Collaboration**

**C3a. Research questions**

- How did scores on the Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory change over time?

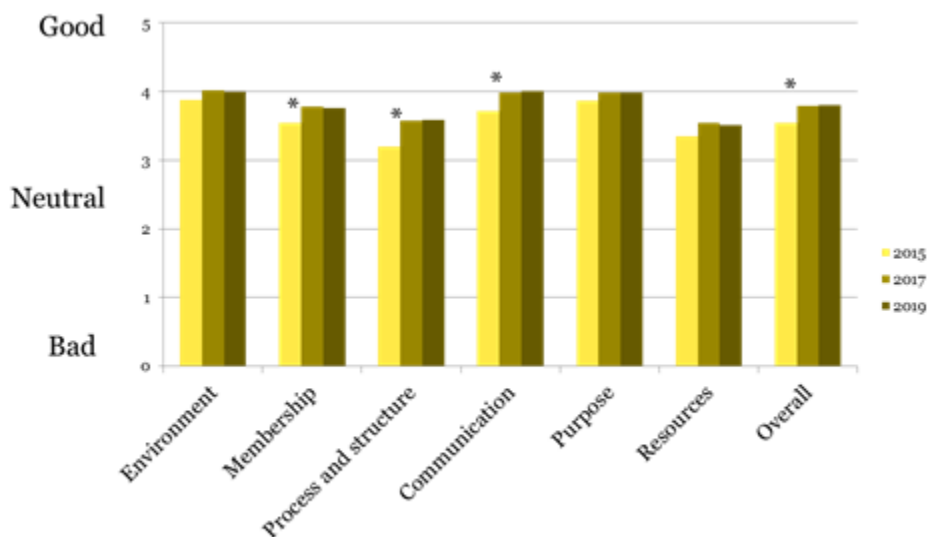
**C3b. Data collection procedures and analysis plan**

Data were collected during the same process as the Network Analysis (see section B2 for complete description). All participating organizations were asked if they considered themselves to be members of the CSEC Task Force. Those that responded affirmatively were administered the Wilder.

**C3c. Findings**

See the “Social Network Analysis” final report in the Appendix for complete details. There were statistically significant improvements from 2015 to 2017 in several subscales, including Membership, Process and Structure, Communication, and Overall score. These improvements remained steady in 2019. Average scores are displayed in Chart Seven.

**Chart Seven: Organizational Collaboration 2015, 2017, 2019**



\* Indicates that the change was large enough and consistent enough to be statistically significant between 2015 and 2017 (there were no statistically significant changes between 2017 and 2019).

**C4. Outcome Evaluation Domain #4: Improved Identification of Trafficked Youth**

**C4a. Research Questions**

- How many youth were identified as trafficking victims by Child Welfare?
- What are the demographics of these youth?
- Did the overall identification of trafficking victims increase or decrease over time?

**C4b. Data collection procedures and analysis plan**

We received counts of identified trafficking victims via two primary sources. DCYF provided numbers of youth who were identified by Child Welfare, stratified by dependency status. We obtained demographic data on dependent youth who were identified from this population. The Bridge Collaborative/YouthCare also provided data on the total number of referrals they received (which is a duplicate count, and includes many of the youth identified via DCYF), as well as an unduplicated count of the total number of youth who were enrolled in Bridge Collaborative services.

**C4c. Findings**

Over the course of the project period, there were 150 state dependent youth identified by DCYF in DSHS Region 2 (See [Appendix “Report to Task Force, October 2019”](#) for more details). Chart Eight describes the demographics of the state dependent youth who were identified.

**Chart Eight: Demographics of Identified CSEC in Child Welfare**

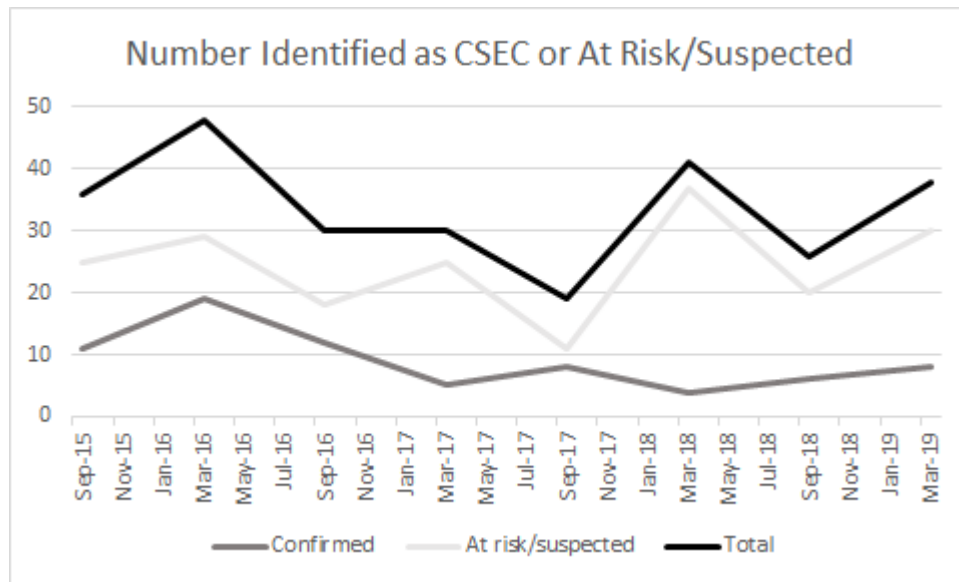
	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
White	60	40.0%
Black/African American	26	17.3%
Mixed Race	37	29.3%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	18	12.0%
Asian/Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	2.7%
Hispanic	19	12.7%
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	134	89.3%
Male	16	10.7%
<b>Exploitation status</b>		
Confirmed	55	36.7%



Suspected/Indicated	57	38.0%
At risk	38	25.3%

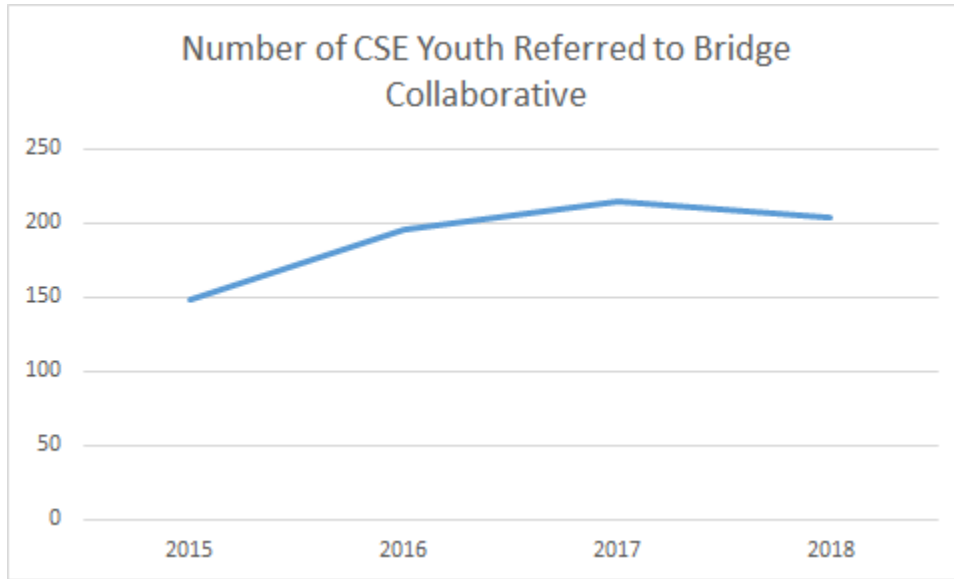
Chart Eight reflects state dependent youth who were identified by DCYF. Many youth were identified by DCYF who were not state dependent. Chart Nine reflects all youth who were identified by DCYF as CSEC or at risk of or suspected of CSEC, regardless of dependency status. Over the course of the project period, there were a total of 268 youth identified. This represents 195 who were at risk/suspected and 73 who were confirmed. The total counts of youth who were identified did not show a consistent pattern over time.

**Chart Nine: Rates of CSEC Identification by Date**



As described earlier, we also have identification counts from the Bridge Collaborative. Chart Ten displays the number of youth referred to Bridge Collaborative services. During the project period, there were 956 referrals (many who were duplicates) to the Bridge Collaborative who were suspected of or confirmed as trafficking. These referrals came from child welfare as well as other sources such as law enforcement and health providers. There were 301 unique youth enrolled into Bridge Collaborative services. The number identified in each year is displayed in the graph below. Of these 301 youth, approximately 84% were female, 11% were male, 1% were transgender female, and 3% did not know. However, gender demographics shifted dramatically over time, with the proportion of males enrolled in services shifting from 5% in 2014 to 19% in 2018, and 0% transgender in 2014 to 4% in 2018. Youth were 16.8 years of age on average. Approximately 29% identified as Hispanic. The counts of youth referrals increased each year from 2015 until 2017 and remained steady in 2018.

**Chart Ten: Number of CSE Youth Referred to Bridge Collaborative Services**



**C4d. Problems with implementation**

There are two primary and common problems with counting the number of youth who are sex trafficked, and determining if sex trafficking is increased or decreased, and if disruptive efforts are successful. The first is that many youth are not identified, and many youth suspected or at risk of sex trafficking are not sex trafficked, so the true count cannot be known. This may be especially true as the methods of sex trafficking (e.g. internet-based trafficking, cell phone-based purchasing) has changed rapidly and adjusts to law enforcement disruptive efforts. The second problem is duplication of youth counts among service providers due to the need for confidentiality.

**Chart Eleven: Common Cluster Short Term Outcomes**

Common Cluster Short-Term Outcomes	Question	Answer
<b>4.1. Improved infrastructure to provide a coordinated response to child trafficking</b>	Please indicate if your project included the following elements, and if so describe:	
	Systems to record and monitor trafficking established or enhanced	A <a href="#">standardized screening protocol</a> developed and implemented in child welfare statewide
	MOUs and data-sharing agreements across project partners	Yes, see Section II.F for details

	Communication processes and information sharing across systems, and partners	See Section II for description of communication processes, and Section IV.B.2 for description of the evaluation findings about communication among organization partners
	CQI processes including functions for reporting information on risk, referral, enrollment, and services to stakeholders and providers	Child Welfare screening, referrals, and enrollment reported to evaluation (see section B4). Baseline and 90-day assessments were implemented by service providers (see outcome evaluation section).
	Training and TA received from outside sources	See Infrastructure Building
	Training of trainers conducted to expand local capacity	This grant funded the Train the Trainer program which trained 115 trainers. These trainers are geographically, organizationally, professionally, ethnically, religiously, lived experience, and gender diverse and deliver the CSEC training throughout the state
	Case-level multidisciplinary teams developed, supported, and facilitated	Multidisciplinary case planning process based on best practices was developed and monitored (see section IV.B.1)
<b>4.2. Increased state-level &amp; local awareness of trafficked youth</b>	How many pre and post Trafficking Awareness Surveys (TAS) were administered during the project period?	See <a href="#">full report</a> . 750 completed and matched pre and post-surveys
	What was the average response rate for pre and post TAS during the project period?	57%

	<p>What were the mean pre and post-scores on the TAS for the:</p> <p>Knowledge Scale</p> <p>Beliefs Scale</p> <p>Self-Efficacy Scale</p> <p>Were the differences between trainees' pre and post scores on these scales statistically significant?</p>	<p>See section IV.C.1c and Appendix for full report</p>
	<p>What were the demographic characteristics of TAS respondents?</p>	<p>See section IV.B.3c</p>
<p><b>4.5. Improved ability to quickly identify trafficked victims</b></p>	<p>Does the jurisdiction (e.g., state or county) where your project operates have an established trafficking identification variable in an electronic information system? If yes, please describe.</p>	<p>Yes, the <a href="#">DCYF screening tool</a> generates one of three categories: not at risk, at risk/suspected, and confirmed.</p>
<p><b>4.8. Improved collection, sharing, &amp; use of data across system partners</b></p>	<p>Please describe how project partners collect, share, and use data.</p>	<p>See section IV.B.4, and all Appendices for reports of how data was shared, analyzed, and applied for the evaluation.</p>

**Chart Twelve: Common Cluster Intermediate Outcomes**

Common Cluster Intermediate Outcomes	Question	Answer
<p><b>5.1. Decreased entry into trafficking among at-risk youth*</b></p>	<p>Please describe the project's efforts to reduce entry into trafficking among at-risk youth and any associated data.</p>	<p>See section C4 for data on identification of trafficking victims by DCYF</p>
<p><b>5.2. Improved identification of trafficked youth</b></p>	<p>How many youth were identified as at-risk or victims of trafficking during each year of the project period? What were the demographics of these youth?</p>	<p>See Section C4 for numbers of youth identified via DCYF, and numbers who were referred to or enrolled in services with the Bridge Collaborative</p>

<b>5.3. Improved cross-system response to child trafficking</b>	For each administration of the Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory conducted, please report: The average score for each factor The overall summary score	See section IV.C.3
<b>5.10. Increased resources for the scientific study of child trafficking</b>	Please describe all professional presentations given and all articles and (non-required) reports published from this project.	See bibliography below

**Profession presentations and manuscripts**

1. Finigan-Carr, N. M., Johnson, M. H., Pullmann, M. D., Stewart, C. J., & Fromknecht, A. E. (2019). A traumagenic social ecological framework for understanding and intervening with sex trafficked children and youth. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 36(1), 49-63. doi: 10.1007/s10560-018-0588-7
2. Pullmann, M.D., Roberts, N., Parker, E.M., Mangiaracina, K.J., Briner, L., Silverman, M., & Becker, J. (under review). Commercially sexually exploited youth involved in the child welfare system: Lifetime residential placements, arrests, and detention
3. Krysik, J., Johnson, M., & Pullmann, M. D. (April, 2019). The trafficking awareness survey: Findings from the grants to address trafficking in child welfare. Presented at the National Conference of Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, DC.
4. Pullmann, M. D., Duncan, D., & Stewart, J. (April, 2019). Screening youth to address human trafficking. Presented at the National Conference of Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, DC.
5. Parker, E.M., Pullmann, M.D., & Mangiaracina, K. (November 2018). System and service use patterns of youth in the child welfare system who are commercially sexually exploited and the role of a multi-disciplinary interagency taskforce. American Public Health Association. San Diego, CA.
6. Pullmann, M.D. (2018, October). No random acts of intervention: Using research and data to build systematic and systemic responses to child sex trafficking. Invited plenary at the fourth annual CSEC Task Force Conference, Seattle, WA.
7. Mangiaracina, K., Pullmann, M.D., Roberts, N., & Silverman, M. (2018, October). Running is the issue: Preventing running away while eliminating secure detention. Presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Juvenile Sex Trafficking, San Diego, CA.
8. Pullmann, M.D. (June, 2017). *Identifying and creating best practices using data in child welfare: An example from Washington State*. National webinar presented as part of the US DHHS’ Children’s Bureau’s Child Welfare Capacity Building Center for States webinar series.
9. Keating, K., Pullmann, M.D., Mangiaracina, K., & Duncan, D. (Sept, 2016). *Data Sharing in Child Welfare Partnerships*. National webinar presented with James Bell Associates as part of the Federal Children’s Bureau Discretionary Grantees Technical Assistance.

*Not all projects collected data on the following common cluster long-term outcomes. If your project did, please complete and include the following table (this may be included as an appendix)*

**Chart Thirteen: Common Cluster Long Term Outcomes**

<b>Common Cluster Long-Term Outcomes</b>	<b>Please Describe Evidence of the Following Outcomes</b>
<b>6.1. Decreased incidence of child trafficking</b>	See Section C4
<b>6.2. Increased successful exits from trafficking for child welfare involved youth</b>	We do not have this information
<b>6.3. Improved cognitive functioning among trafficked youth</b>	We do not have this information
<b>6.4. Improved physical health &amp; development among trafficked youth</b>	See section C2
<b>6.5. Improved emotional/behavioral functioning among trafficked youth</b>	See section C2
<b>6.6. Improved social functioning among trafficked youth</b>	See section C2

**D. Evaluation Discussion**

**D1. Challenges encountered in implementing the evaluation plan**

Specific challenges to the evaluation plan are described as pertinent to each research domain described above. To summarize, the most difficult challenges were: 1. Obtaining and maintaining state Institutional Review Board approval to obtain data from Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and the Juvenile Courts. IRB was difficult for two reasons. First, the state IRB instituted new rules requiring payment for services, including annual reviews. This payment had not been budgeted into our original proposal. Second, the IRB requires the personal review, approval and signature of the directors of the state agencies. This is a terribly slow process. 2. Recruiting youth to participate in process interviews conducted by evaluation staff was slow, youth were reluctant to participate, and even upon agreement to participate, it was difficult to get youth to provide much information, and 3. For the youth interviews conducted by service providers, it was impossible to conduct follow-ups with youth who dropped out of services or were otherwise missing.

**D2. Limitations**

The challenges above, as well as the inherent nature of observational studies, resulted in some limitations. We can draw no conclusions about youth who were not identified as CSEC, and similarly, we cannot compare the experiences of CSEC youth who were identified to CSEC youth who were not identified. In other words, we do not know whether the screening, referral, and intervention process was causally associated with youth outcomes. We are also missing direct data on salient services, such as housing, mental health, educational support, employment support, and more. Though we have anecdotal reports

that CSE youth are unlikely to engage in traditional, non-community-based mental health services, we have no data to support this claim.

## **V. Conclusions**

### **A. Determine whether the project met its proposed goals and objectives. If the project did not meet goals and objectives, discuss why.**

Overall, the project met its proposed goals and objectives from the initial grant proposal, described as follows. The project: established and monitored specific “best practice” multidisciplinary case planning strategies used by Community Advocates; successfully augmented the CSEC Program, implementing strategies to educate social workers and the public to have a better understanding of CSEC and better skills for identification and intervention; more systematically identified child welfare system-involved youth at risk of and victims of sex trafficking and connecting them to interventions; designed and implemented a baseline and 90-day data gathering plan on served youth for case management purposes and to monitor whether outcomes are achieved; evaluated the impact of the community advocate strategy to intervene and serve CSE youth; and implemented sustainment and institutionalizing practices that potentially improved outcomes for child welfare involved youth. The project met other secondary objectives as well, including expanding the numbers of organizations that were involved in the Task Force, improving the collaborative capacity among the Task Force, improving the strength of the Task Force’s system network, further identifying the characteristics and service trajectories of CSE youth, and developing and implementing a formal screening tool in Child Welfare.

Some of our goals were met in slightly different ways than initially proposed. For example there was an initial push to formalize CSEC work within Uniting for Youth (UfY). This did not happen. However, CSEC work was formalized within the Children’s Justice Center of King County “Ellie’s Place”. This partnership allows CSEC to be seen as child abuse and provides a more streamlined process to both prosecution of perpetrators and connection to services. Now, there are formal monthly CSEC MDT meetings with a trained facilitator, local and federal law enforcement, DCYF, juvenile court, the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC) and YouthCare.

Whenever grant funded positions or projects encountered barriers, workarounds were found. A detailed lesson learned section can be found below.

### **B. Describe any significant implementation facilitators and/or barriers and “lessons learned” related to project implementation.**

One of the biggest frustrations has been the organizational structure of Washington State’s child welfare organization, the Department of Children Youth and Families. In the past decade DCFY went from six regions to three regions and back to six regions. They also went from being a section of Washington State Department of Social and Health Services / Children’s Administration to becoming a different state department, the Department of Children Youth and Families. There have been significant transitions not only in the name, the organization, but in leadership, and the case carrying social workers over the grant funded period. These transitions make stability difficult. Fortunately, the DCYF CSEC Liaison hired in 2015 remained in the position throughout the grant funded period.

Having a CSEC Liaison in DCYF R3&4 created a stark contrast between the CSEC work done locally and the CSEC work done, or more accurately not done, in the rest of the state of Washington state. This is not to diminish the desire to provide quality care within the rest of DCYF, it is simply a statement that

having a dedicated CSEC Liaison can be the difference between having a formal written policy and having actual programmatic implementation.

In fact, here is some commentary from local King County Task Force members about the value of the CSEC Liaison position.

The CSEC Liaison “has a phenomenal track record of getting DCYF social workers to engage on CSE issues. Historically it has been difficult to get DCYF to the table.” The CSEC Liaison “as an internal change agent has shown DCYF staff and management that partnering with community providers and law enforcement will actually lessen their workload while benefiting the youth that they serve.” The CSEC Liaison “almost single handedly developed a CSEC screening tool, presented it to management and helped shepherd its implementation.”

Having an internal change agent in Regions 3 & 4 is possibly the single most successful aspect of this highly successful Program. Not having a point of contact for CSEC issues has created difficulties in the rest of the state.

From the evaluator’s point of view, one major barrier was a relative disconnect between local efforts in Child Welfare and Child Welfare efforts across the state. As one example, though the local processes and procedures for acting on CSE screening have been in place for several years in King County, it is unclear if there are statewide processes or procedures for acting on CSE screening. Indeed, despite repeated requests, the state has been unable to even provide basic information on the results of screening tools, and it is unclear if these tools are simply being completed but not scored. It is also unclear whether they lead to any referrals to services. This may be simply due to lack of data infrastructure to provide supportive evidence. A lesson learned is that federal policy needs to be very explicit about the entirety of actions necessary to fulfill the intended goals of that policy.

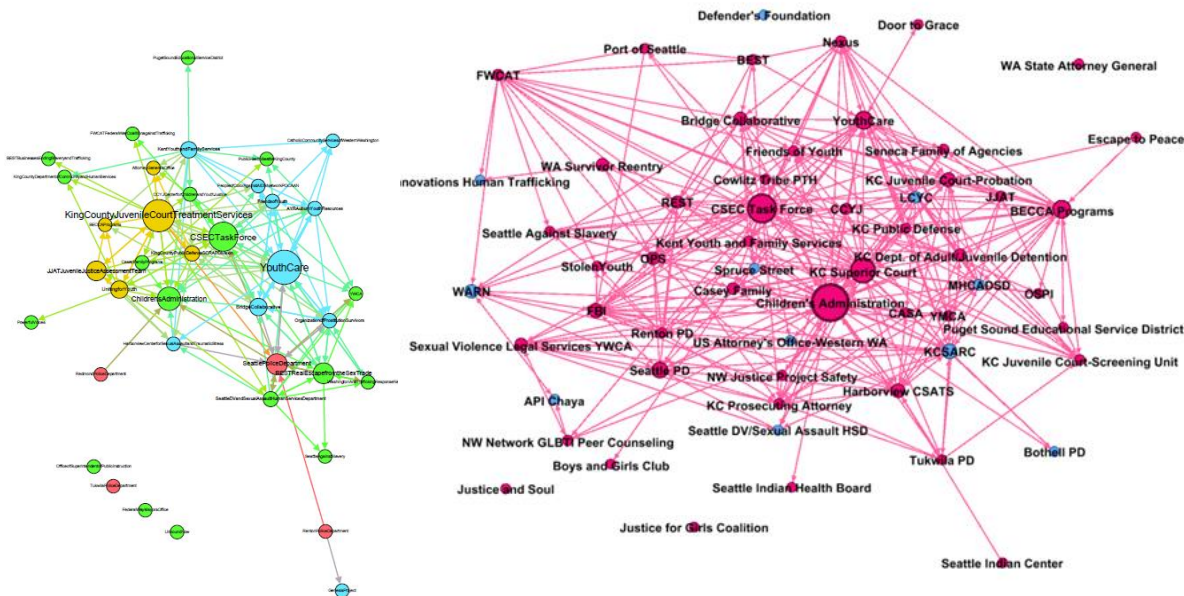
Another barrier has been the difficulty of sustaining subcommittee structures, which were supposed to be led by volunteering participating organizations. While a few subcommittees were sustained (e.g. Evaluation, ConnectUP), these were committees populated by paid staff. However, Task Force meetings were highly popular and well attended. A lesson learned is that it may be necessary for paid staff to provide the administrative support and motivation to organize and sustain subcommittee structures.

**C. Describe and interpret the impact of the project on the involved partner organizations/local systems. Include discussion of relevant process and outcome data to help interpret impact.**

The network analysis that was conducted in 2015, 2017, and 2019 (see [Appendix for full report](#)) revealed a partner organization network that was both growing larger (with more organizations considered to be core members) and growing tighter (with a fuller network structure). Organizations reported significantly greater awareness of each other’s roles and services, greater referrals of clients to appropriate services, and greater communication. Child Welfare had particularly large gains in in-referrals, out-referrals, and communication about cases. Chart Fourteen shows the network for communication about cases in 2015 (left) and 2019 (right). Arrows/lines show organizations that reported that they communicate with other organizations at the highest level. Larger circles indicate greater “betweenness” or bridging activity between other organizations. The detail on these figures is not necessary in order to see that the number of organizations and density of the network grew dramatically over these four years. Additionally, it is clear that “Children’s Administration” (the former name for DCYF or Child Welfare) became much more centralized.



**Chart Fourteen: Betweenness Centrality**



Data from the Wilder Collaborative Capacity measure also showed statistically significant growth on several areas from 2015 to 2017 and which sustained through 2019, including Membership, Process and Structure, and Communication, which is more remarkable given that many organizations joined the Task Force during that time. Many organizations attributed the Task Force meeting structure, and the work of the Task Force coordinator and leadership, as the cause of this improved network structure. Responses to open-ended items from the 2019 survey support this notion, for example: “I think the open networking time is some of the most valuable time spent at the meetings themselves. I appreciate [the Task Force coordinator] asking organizations to share about their services at the Task Force. I think building trust among members is one of the most important things we can do.”

Other impacts on partner organizations have been described earlier. The Bridge Collaborative developed and administered a baseline and 90-day assessment that was feasible, covered the primary life domains of served youth, permitted evaluation of progress, and provided essential case planning and service need feedback to Community Advocates. The Multidisciplinary Case Planning fidelity tool acted as a regular checklist for Community Advocates to consider when engaging in MDCP activities to ensure that best practices and youth-centered/youth-driven approaches were being used.

**D. Describe and interpret the impact of the project in the child welfare community. Include discussion of relevant process and outcome data to help interpret impact.**

As described above, Child Welfare became much more central to the CSEC identification and case-serving process in King County over the five years of grant funding. Child Welfare was the most central organization for case communication about CSEC in 2019. The participation of Child Welfare on the Multidisciplinary Team planning process helped with this centralization, and in a sense shifted the traditional role that Child Welfare played in system planning. The state developed and implemented a screening tool to be used in a systematic manner for identification of CSEC, and this contributed to the improved identification and referral of CSEC in King County. Thousands of social workers across the state received high-quality training on how to identify and serve CSEC, and showed improved understanding of CSEC issues after receiving this training. Administrative data revealed the very high

levels of juvenile justice contact and runaway episodes for CSE youth identified in Child Welfare, reinforcing the need for strong Task Force involvement of “missing from care” locator staff.

However, there are still weaknesses. The Community Advocates in King County did not report any improvement in their collaboration with Child Welfare social workers over the course of three years, and social workers received the lowest ratings of collaboration among all major roles with whom the advocates worked. Child Welfare staff across the nation are notoriously overworked, with high caseloads, long hours, and situations that contribute to secondary trauma and burnout. This makes it difficult to engage in timely and thorough communication about complex issues. Additionally, this population likely represents a small percentage of the average social worker’s caseload, and therefore many social workers may quickly forget or not have practice with the skills necessary to engage in multidisciplinary team planning for CSEC.

The CSEC Liaison position, half funded by this federal grant, was absolutely necessary for the success of this project. As mentioned above, Child Welfare has many competing and complex issues that it is facing. It greatly facilitated the process to have one staff member whose sole responsibility was to work on CSEC issues helped the system remained focused and planful.

**VI. Sustainability**

**A. Describe what portions of your program – program services as well as partnership activities – you plan to sustain. Describe how you will sustain them through resources, partnerships, etc.**

Grant funding was critical in boosting King County’s response to commercially sexually exploited children. Federal funding was added to the local community and supplemented the funding provided by the city of Seattle, King County, Washington state, and local fundraising nonprofits such as StolenYouth.

Chart Fifteen illustrates the grant funded work and how that work will be funded moving forward.

**Chart Fifteen: Sustainable Funding**

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Funding 2014 – 2019</b>	<b>Ongoing funding through 2020</b>	<b>Work Product</b>
<b>King County Superior Court - CSEC Program Manager</b>	Ms. Kelly Mangiaracina (Position funded)	≈ 25% Grant Funding ≈ 75% King County	100% King County Superior Court General Funding	CSEC efforts in Juvenile Court and King County
<b>Department of Children Youth and Families - CSEC Liaison</b>	Ms. Norene Roberts (2015 – 2019) Ms. Schuyler Klock (2020 - ) (position funded)	50% Grant Funding 50% Washington State	80% King County Superior Court General Funding 20% DCYF Region 3 funding	CSEC efforts in DCYF R3&4

<b>SENECA - CSEC Outreach</b>	Ms. Melanie Ferrer-Vaughn (position funded)	≈ 90 % Grant funding ≈ 10% Seneca Funding	≈ 90 % King County Superior Court General Funding ≈ 10% Seneca Funding	Preventative Outreach
<b>YouthCare - CSEC Train the Trainer Curriculum and Consultation</b>	Ms. Leslie Briner (project funded)	100% Grant Funding	No ongoing funding – looking at fee for service model	Train the Trainer Workshop and Case Consultation
<b>Center for Children and Youth Justice (CCYJ) - CSEC Train the Trainer Workshop and Materials</b>	Mr. Nicholas Oakley (project funded)	100% Grant Funding	No ongoing funding – looking at fee for service model	Train the Trainer Workshop and Materials – Statewide Distribution and Coordination
<b>University of Washington - CSEC Evaluation</b>	Dr. Michael Pullmann (project funded)	100% Grant Funding	No ongoing funding	Evaluation of CSEC Program and CSEC Task Force

Despite the best efforts of the CSEC Program Manager, the King County CSEC Program was unable to secure ongoing evaluation funding. This is problematic for a few reasons. First, there are currently no evidence-based programs or services for commercially sexually exploited children. There simply has not been the dedicated time, funding, and evaluation required to designate programs as evidence based. Second, not having evidenced based programs can make applying for additional federal funding difficult, if not impossible. The King County CSEC Program wrote proposals and sought ongoing evaluation, but ultimately funding providers are not as interested in funding evaluation as funding direct service. Fortunately, the evaluation that was completed showed the value of the efforts in King County, resulting in ongoing local funding for some grant funded positions.

The Center for Children and Youth Justice provided all materials, facilitation, and coordination of the highly successful Train the Trainer Program. Over the course of the grant one hundred and fifteen individuals attended the Train the Trainer. These individuals spent between three and five days with Ms. Leslie Briner, a nationally recognized subject matter expert on CSEC issues. Attendees not only saw a subject matter expert provide the Responding to the Sexual Exploitation of Youth training, they were provided an entire day of detailed facilitation techniques and then were required to teach the content to the other attendees. Attendees in later years, were also trained in the And Boys Too, and Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing Curriculums. Each of these attendees signed an [MOU](#) stating that they would provide a minimum of 3 free trainings per year. Certain trainers, such as the CSEC Program Manager, the CSEC Liaison, and the CSEC Outreach Specialist provided on average more than a dozen full day trainings a year, with additional shorter information sessions.

A strategic decision was made in 2014 to have CCYJ run the Train the Trainer Program and not to have King County’s name associated with the program. Other geographic and political areas of Washington

state, outside of Seattle, often feel that they are overlooked, underfunded, and treated as an afterthought. King County CSEC Program saw more value in having additional individuals trained than in having name recognition for providing that training. This proved to be a prophetic decision. Now that King County no longer has grant funding to pay for the Train the Trainer, CCYJ is exploring options to continue the program as a fee for service model. The program will not require rebranding or advertising, simply an update that there will now be costs associated with attending. The program has been so popular in the past that it is highly likely to be able to pay for itself moving forward.

King County Superior Court had provided approximately 75% of the funding for the CSEC Program Manager. The Court sees great value in the CSEC Program and believes wholeheartedly in the person-centered model that connects CSEC with services and does not criminalize youth for their own exploitation. As of October 1, 2019, King County Superior Court provides 100% of the funding required for the CSEC Program Manager. The decision to fully fund the position was made in 2018 which resulted in a smooth transition of funding sources. The funding is part of the biennium budget and is funded through 2020. Funding is being sought for 2021 and 2022.

Federal grant funding was used to hire the CSEC Outreach Specialist at Seneca Family of Agencies. Seneca provides a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits to their employees and thus, the funding did not fully cover the cost of the position. However, Seneca saw value in the CSEC work and was able to supplement with additional agency funding. King County Superior Court has been extremely satisfied with the preventative outreach work done by Seneca. Seneca has provided support groups for girls at each step along the “school to prison pipeline”. They provide groups in school settings, juvenile detention, and are currently in talks to run the program at Echo Glen. As of October 1, 2019, the amount of funding for Seneca remained the same; however, King County Superior Court provided the funding instead of the federal government. The decision to fully fund the position was made in 2018 which resulted in a smooth transition of funding sources. The funding is part of the biennium budget and is funded through 2020. Funding is being sought for 2021 and 2022. The preventative outreach contract will likely be subject to a new request for proposal. Seneca is expected to reapply for funding.

The original grant proposal sought funding for a 0.5 FTE CSEC Liaison in DCYF. DCYF R3&4 saw value in the position and provided the other 0.5 FTE creating the first and only CSEC Liaison in the state of Washington. Without exaggeration, the creation of this position was the single best idea in our perfectly scored grant proposal. The CSEC Liaison acted as a single point of contact for DCYF R3&4 for all issues regarding CSEC. They were the single point of contact for all community service providers, for all court staff, for all prosecution and defense attorneys, and for all law enforcement. The FBI invited the CSEC Liaison to submit to the intensive background check required for “secret” clearance and officially included the CSEC Liaison as a member of the Child Exploitation Task Force. This partnership was so successful that the FBI is seeking to formalize a partnership statewide with DCYF. This is a direct result of the positive working relationship and collaboration between the FBI and the DCYF CSEC Liaison.

King County CSEC Program believes that the CSEC Liaison is the most critical CSEC position in the state of Washington and had secured funding to continue paying for 0.5 FTE of the CSEC Liaison as of October 1, 2019 via King County Superior Court. The Program Manager was provided verbal confirmation that DCYF wished to continue the work and would continue to finance the other 0.5 FTE. However, DCYF is underfunded as an agency and was unable to find the funding necessary to pay for the other 0.5 FTE. As a result, DCYF notified the CSEC Liaison that the position was terminated and the CSEC Liaison was laid off as of September 30, 2019. This decision was met by shock and disappointment in the anti-trafficking community. CSEC Program Manager still wished to fund the position, even at a reduced FTE. Fortunately, as a direct result of community engagement and savvy budgeting, King County Superior Court and DCYF found a solution. King County Superior Court will pay for 0.8 FTE and DCYF Region 3 will pay for 0.2 FTE creating a 1.0 FTE CSEC Liaison through December 31, 2020.

Unfortunately, the CSEC Liaison hired in 2015 found other employment during the funding crisis. Interviews were held in November 2019 and a new CSEC Liaison with an impressive resume will assume the role in January 2020.

The King County CSEC Program Manager is already hard at work on securing ongoing funding for program coordination, the DCYF CSEC Liaison, and preventative outreach. Funding is secure through 2020.

**B. Describe key products (e.g., training manuals) that were developed as part of the project or for replication purposes. Include samples in a report appendix.**

The King County CSEC Program believes that different resources are required for different learning styles. Therefore, a significant amount of diverse types of resources have been developed. King County TV filmed Ms. Leslie Briner provided a brief talk “[Help for Commercially Sexually Exploited Children](#)”. This video is available to the public and provides a high-level overview of what CSEC is and how to respond.

Two websites have been developed during the grant period. There is now a Washington State Anti-Trafficking [website](#) that was built in partnership with the Washington State Attorney General’s Office. This website provides a single database of all anti-trafficking service providers across the state of Washington. While the King County CSEC Program Manager was instrumental in the creation, design, and launch of this website, it is now exclusively managed by the Washington State Attorney General’s Office.

On a more local level, the King County CSEC Program has launched its own [website](#). This website was the brainchild of the CSEC Program Manager and was created as a means of creating sustainability in case funding was not secured. The website is a single source for all issues related to CSEC in King County. There are tabs for each of the seven free trainings. [And Boys Too](#), [Engaging and Serving Youth Using Motivational Interviewing](#), [Engaging Men to End Commercial Sexual Exploitation](#), [At the Margins: the Sex Trafficking of LGBTQ+ Youth](#), [Survivor Centered Programming](#), and [Queer Like Me](#). Additional tabs exist for [Advocates](#), [ConnectUP](#), [Awareness](#), [Evaluation](#), [Red Flags/Toolkit](#), [Podcast](#), [Videos](#), and [Events](#). This website has been an incredibly useful tool for the King County CSEC Program and the broader King County CSEC Task Force.

The ConnectUP Program is a formal partnership between DCYF, King County Superior Court, Casey Family Programs, YouthCare, the YMCA Accelerator, and the Organization for Prostitution Survivors. A [website](#) was developed for ConnectUP. This website provides clarification of program elements for [current caregivers](#), [DCYF staff](#), and [potential foster parents](#).

In addition to the above websites, two short videos are available to view by anyone interested in learning more about CSEC in King County. One video focuses on [Preventing Commercial Sexual Exploitation Before it Starts](#) by looking at addressing the demand for commercial sex. The other video focuses on [Responding to the Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking of Youth](#) in a person centered manner.

Videos are not ideal for all situations. Some individuals prefer to receive information via podcast. Therefore The King County CSEC Program Manager and CSEC Liaison recorded a 5-part [podcast](#). The podcast was recorded during the grant period and released on October 17, 2019. The podcast has already been downloaded over 440 times. New episodes will be recorded in 2020.

Some individuals prefer to have actual paper resources. For those individuals we have printed over 5000 copies of the [Toolkit](#) which is provided to attendees of Responding to the Sexually Exploitation and

Trafficking of Youth training. We also have the Red Flags documents in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) versions.

As a source of recruiting more foster parents for the ConnectUP program, we have created a two sided business card that is distributed throughout King County.



There is also a one-page “[Overview](#)” document that provides a brief description of the CSEC Task Force and the different partners, services, trainings, funding, and data. This is provided to potential new task force members and can be found on the King County CSEC Task Force website. This document is updated quarterly.

## VII. Recommendations

### A. Consider the body of work that you have been engaged in over the last five years. What are your practical recommendations to the Children’s Bureau?

Screening is the vitally important first step in serving CSE youth, but without requiring a link to evidence-based processes and practices it serves little use. While certain best practices are clear (e.g. immediate response, not treating survivor victims as criminals, building trusting relationships), other practices are less clear. Most important for future work are the development, dissemination, and implementation of evidence-based practices to 1. Support residential stability and prevent foster care runaway episodes, 2. Facilitate the rapid reintegration of youth in foster homes after a runaway episode, 3. Engage youth in effective services to treat the sexual, social, and other traumas they have experienced.

Evidence based practices already exist for youth from other populations that could be adapted and modified to better fit the CSE population. For instance, Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care has been proven to prevent runaway episodes and juvenile delinquency, two critical factors associated with CSE. MTFC could be adapted to better serve CSE, with CSE-specific modules, training, and individual and group supports. The Children’s Bureau should fund research into the adaptation process to determine whether this service could be effective with the CSE youth population. Similarly, Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) has significant support for effectiveness in many populations. However, in our site, anecdotal reports stated that CSE youth were unwilling to attend office-based treatments, even Seattle’s nationally-recognized TF-CBT. Adaptation of this process, and modification of billing policies, could be made in order to support community-based TF-CBT. Similarly, the Children’s Bureau could support research on adapting TF-CBT components for use by social workers and Community Advocates.

Having a CSEC Liaison within the Child Welfare system proved invaluable, and any future work by the Children’s Bureau should require that this be an aspect of CSEC activities. However, the liaison was an employee within the local (King County) office, which may have resulted in some disconnect between local activities and statewide activities. To ensure consistency, it may be useful to provide funding for both state and national liaisons to work in coordination.

Having a full-time paid Task Force Coordinator was also essential to the success of this project. At every opportunity, Task Force member organizations expressed gratitude for the essential role of the Coordinator in ensuring that meetings occurred with regularity and without barriers. The Coordinator acted as communicator/disseminator, cheerleader, catalyst, networker, and repository of all knowledge regarding CSE intervention activities in the community.

**B. What specific issues are critical and should be given priority?**

Priority should be given to funding the development, dissemination, and implementation of practices to support stable housing and prevent runaway behavior for foster care givers serving CSE youth. The field does not yet have established evidence-based practices on working with this population; controlled research studies could uncover which practices are effective and efficient.

Priority should also be given to exploring alternatives to detention that provide safety and stability for CSE youth in crisis. There is significant tension among the conflicting goals of providing for the physical safety of CSE youth while also respecting their autonomy.

Youth and survivor involvement is vitally important, but many jurisdictions and organizations are unclear about the complexities of authentically involving survivors at all levels of service and system planning and delivery.

**C. What policy changes can we implement from the federal level, (i.e. Information Memoranda) that can address the barriers and challenges that you faced? How can we help you sustain the changes that you made during the course of this project?**

Due to severe underfunding of all social services in Washington state, DCYF, Juvenile Court, and all child serving agencies, would greatly appreciate explicit instructions on what the federal government requires regarding CSEC. For example, instead of requiring “screening” for CSEC, a requirement that there is “screening, documentation of screening result, referral to services, documentation of referral and what type of services were referred, follow up connection with referred agency, and documentation that connection was complete”. With each added detail, the ability to provide better screening, connection, and documentation increases.

Additionally, having federal requirements that there be internal CSEC experts within child welfare would be ideal. An explicit policy such as “CSEC case specific social workers” would be beneficial, as would having “CSEC subject matter experts, who do not carry caseloads” such as the CSEC Liaison position. The CSEC Liaison position was so valuable in Washington state that two Washington State legislators are looking to legislatively require the position in the 2020 legislative session as part of the Safe Harbor bill.

In Washington state some of our most valuable resources within child welfare are the result of either federal requirements or lawsuits. We would much prefer to have resources, positions, and policies as a result of legislation and not lawsuits. Therefore, strict and explicit requirements are welcome and appreciated. Additionally, if funding can be attached to any policy changes that increases the speed at which new policies are implemented.

**D. What guidance could we provide to all states that could help facilitate the successes you may have encountered in your work in all states?**

Without a doubt, having paid staff to coordinate and liaise between various child serving agencies has been the most valuable aspect of grant funding. The CSEC Liaison position in DCYF did not carry a case load. The position was able to act as a subject matter expert, provide training, consultation, coordination

and connection. They attended county CSEC task force meetings in 4 different counties and acted as the single point of contact between DCYF, juvenile courts, law enforcement, and social service providers. This position existed in only 1/3 of the DCYF regions in Washington State. There is a clear differentiation between the partnership and coordination in the regions that had the CSEC Liaison and the regions that did not. The level of community connection, training, identification, and connection to services all increased in the areas served by the DCYF CSEC Liaison.

Again, as mentioned above, we would like to request that all policy positions be as detailed and explicit as possible. This will allow us to accurately implement the policy as required.

**E. Provide recommendations to the Children’s Bureau of how this work could/should inform future funding opportunities in child welfare. How should it inform the larger body of work that ACF does?**

Funding to fill some of the gaps in the current service array is essential. For instance, while NIMH has funded the development and testing of multiple evidence-based practices for youth with mental, emotional, and behavioral health issues, NIMH is unlikely to fund studies of adaptations of these practices for a population that may not fit within a traditional diagnostic framework, such as CSE youth. Children’s Bureau could fund rigorous studies to build off of these practices, maximizing the efficiency of federal dollars that have already been spent while expanding the available effective service array.

Additionally, ongoing and sustainable funding is invaluable. Often as soon as a program has documented success, the funding priorities shift. In addition to funding new and promising programs, there needs to be a continued effort to fund existing and established programs that have proven effective at helping CSE youth.

**F. How does this work prepare the Children’s Bureau and the field of child welfare to further the work of ensuring the safety, permanence, and well-being of children/youth in the child welfare system?**

There is a misconception that the issue of commercial sexual exploitation is new and that CSE youth are new in our systems. Child welfare has been providing services to CSE youth for as long as there have been CSE youth. The difference is that we have a new name for an old previously unnamed problem. Child welfare addresses the needs of youth who have been abused and or neglected. The commercial sexual exploitation of a child is child abuse.

This grant has provided oversight, policies, procedures, and funding to help our local child welfare, DCYF acknowledge, identify, and respond in a compassionate safe manner to all youth who have been exploited. DCYF works diligently to ensure the safety, permanence, and well-being of each and every child that comes into the Washington State child welfare system. As a result of this grant, they now have language, knowledge, and tools to do so in a more victim or person-centered way.

**VIII. Dissemination**

**A. Attach all journal articles or publications that resulted from this project as evidence of dissemination.**

As a means of government transparency, accessibility, and dissemination, this entire report will be uploaded to the King County CSEC [website](#). All Appendices are available at the below links and under the evaluation tabs on the website.



## King County CSEC Program Final Report – Appendices

- [Bridge Collaborative Baseline and 90 day Assessments](#)
- [CSEC Training Results](#)
- [CSEC Training Results - Comparing Trainers](#)
- [Multi-disciplinary Case Planning - Survey Template](#)
- [Multi-disciplinary Case Planning - Results and Findings](#)
- [Ongoing Positive Youth Development MDT Characteristics](#)
- [Urgent Need and Crisis Response MDT Characteristics](#)
- [King County CSEC Task Force October 2019 Presentation](#)
- [Social Network Analysis 2019 Report](#)
- [DCYF Screening Tool](#)
- [Sample Train the Trainer MOU](#)

See Attachment for additional publication “**A Traumagenic Social Ecological Framework for Understanding and Intervening with Sex Trafficked Children and Youth**”. This article is not linked to the website due to copyright requirements.