

A Call to Action

Putting an End to Human Exploitation and Trafficking, and
Supporting Survivors in California and Beyond



Human Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. Traffickers use force, fraud, coercion, and false expressions of love to compel victims to engage in commercial acts of sex or labor services against their will.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) involves the sexual exploitation of minors for economic profit. It can include trafficking for sexual purposes, forced prostitution, sex tourism, mail-order bride trade, early marriage, pornography, stripping, and performing in sexual venues.

HEAT Institute Theory of Change believes a robustly sustained comprehensive safety net produced from smart and courageous policy can prevent California's vulnerable youth from becoming victims. It can also assist CSEC survivors in the healing and recover process.

One in Six



endangered runaways reported to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children in 2014 were likely sex trafficking victims.

68% of these victims were in the care of social services or foster care when they ran.

The H.E.A.T. Institute

Multiple Systems, One Shared Commitment

What is the H.E.A.T. Institute?

The time is right for Californians to come together and **review, rethink, reframe,** and **redesign** how California responds to human trafficking. There is a critical need to align systems and programs and create critical infrastructure to provide and fund a comprehensive system of prevention and intervention.

The **H.E.A.T. Institute** is an innovative research-based think-tank, bringing together leaders from multiple state and local systems to create a unified and comprehensive system of support to respond to and prevent human exploitation and trafficking. In 2015, the Institute will focus specifically on CSEC.

The Institute will establish a **Blue Ribbon Commission** chaired by Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley, which will consist of leaders from child welfare, education, criminal justice, health, and the nonprofit sector. The commission will convene **six regional information summits** throughout the state to learn how communities understand and are responding to CSEC. They will focus on reviewing best practices and new research; assessing strengths, gaps, and needs; and developing visionary and strategic policies and protocols for a more effective trauma-informed response to human trafficking. Commission members will consult survivors of CSEC and content experts throughout the process.



CHILD WELFARE



EDUCATION



CRIMINAL JUSTICE



HEALTH



NONPROFIT

A Roadmap to Justice: The H.E.A.T. Institute's Final Report

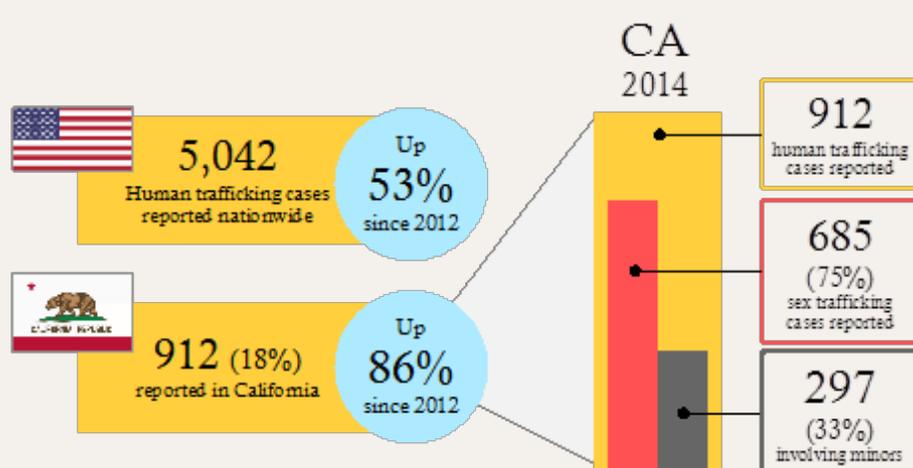
In 2016, the H.E.A.T. Institute will release a final report containing **concrete recommendations** to guide policy makers, elected leaders, and local communities in developing a collaborative, comprehensive, holistic, and consistent response to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in California.

"We know we can do better by our children. We must have the courage and the will to do so!"

-- Nancy E. O'Malley

What we know and don't know.

Human Exploitation and Trafficking*



3 of the nation's **13** High Intensity Child Sex Trafficking areas are in California.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates human trafficking involves more than **100,000 children** in the United States.

* Data collection and quality are key issues the H.E.A.T. Institute hopes to address. Current data is limited and does not accurately portray the alarming rates at which CSEC occurs. This hampers effective enforcement and delivery of services.

“The commercial sexual exploitation of children is the most hidden form of child abuse in North America today. It is the nation’s least recognized epidemic.”

-Richard Estes, University of Pennsylvania, School of Social Work Center for Youth Study

Examples of Work and Successes to Date

Highlights of Statewide Work

In 2013, the California Child Welfare Council, co-chaired by California Health and Human Services Secretary Diana Dooley and Third District of California Courts of Appeal Justice Vance Ray, released a report: **“Ending the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC): A Call for Multi-System Collaboration in California.”**

In February 2015, Attorney General Kamala D. Harris unveiled the **Bureau of Children’s Justice** within the California Department of Justice. The Bureau will enforce laws that hold those who prey on children accountable, and will work with stakeholders to increase support for vulnerable children. Ending the human trafficking of vulnerable youth is one of the Bureau’s five core priorities.

Highlights of Local Work

In 2006, the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office, created **H.E.A.T. Watch**.

Between 2004 and 2010, numerous regional **Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces** to identify and rescue victims, prosecute those engaged in trafficking, and promote public awareness were created, such as in Alameda/East Bay, Fresno, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Jose/South Bay, San Francisco/North Bay.

In 2011, the Los Angeles County Probation Department and Courts launched the **Succeeding Through Achievement and Resilience (STAR) Court** to provide intervention and assistance to youth caught up in human sex trafficking.

A number of California counties have developed **CSEC protocols and screening tools, and have begun training social workers in identification**. For a full list, see: www.cwda.org/tools/csec.php.

Victim Centered Responses

Multiple Systems, One Shared Commitment

State Leadership is Critical!

The H.E.A.T. Institute will address a myriad of complex issues that face victims of human trafficking. Initially, we will focus on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) through a united response that reframes and reshapes policies and practices of our public systems. Examples of the many critical and complicated issues that CSEC victims encounter are described below.

EDUCATION



Commercial sexual exploitation often leads to educational problems as victims have poor school attendance. When they do attend school, their chances of success are often limited by developmental delays and harassment by their peers. This limits victims' abilities to gain the skills they need to prepare them for college and career.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE



In 2012, California voters passed Proposition 35, which recognizes trafficked individuals as victims and not criminals, and protects the rights of trafficked victims. However, CSEC victims are still being treated as criminals in some parts of the state. It is critical we ensure that CSEC victims are not criminalized and that exploiters and buyers are held accountable.

CHILD WELFARE



The majority of CSEC victims have a history with the child welfare system. Even well intentioned caregivers and foster parents are not always equipped to support children who have experienced significant trauma in their lives. Alternative settings for CSEC victims outside of foster care are often limited, with few transitional and permanent shelters designed to address their unique needs.

More comprehensive assessments are needed to identify children who are at risk of exploitation and ensure that they are placed in settings that can adequately address their needs.

HEALTH CARE



The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) study found that children who have adverse childhood experiences face a higher risk of health problems. As the number of adverse childhood experiences increases, the risk for health problems increases.

CSEC victims often have multiple traumatic experiences that put their health at risk, and they require sustained attention from health care professionals, first responders, and the juvenile justice system.

CSEC Survivor



Victim Service Providers

The H.E.A.T. Institute

Multiple Systems, One Shared Commitment

The Opportunity

The H.E.A.T. Institute is an opportunity to bring together key state leaders from education, health and human services, and criminal justice systems to demonstrate a shared commitment to addressing human exploitation and trafficking (H.E.A.T.). By working collaboratively, bringing in community based organizations and survivors to be fully informed, and providing a holistic and comprehensive response that builds on efforts currently underway throughout the state, we have an opportunity to end the abuse and save lives.

In 2015, the Institute will focus on commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), including **“crossover” youth who interact with the child welfare, juvenile justice, and education systems, and victims who are now young adults.** California’s most vulnerable children are in dire need of our help, and it is our duty to identify, protect, and care for them.

In order to successfully combat this crime, **we must create strategic partnerships to respond to the issue on all levels.** The H.E.A.T. Institute will foster meaningful dialogue and chart a course for how California’s public institutions can align to respond to and prevent CSEC.

Co-Sponsorship

Your leadership is essential to making this critical issue a priority for our state. As a co-sponsor of the H.E.A.T. Institute, you will support the creation of a Blue Ribbon Commission by **appointing a commission member and helping to recruit additional members.**

The commission will hold **nine public hearings** to gather information about local challenges, successes, and stories. Building on this information, the commission will develop specific recommendations for our state to align systems and efforts to prevent human exploitation and trafficking, and support victims.

Buying a teen for sex is child abuse. **Turning a blind eye is neglect.**
It is our **collective duty** to identify and protect sexually exploited minors.

“I feel hopeful about the HEAT Institute because it seems to have a true understanding of trauma-informed approaches.”

-- Withelma “T” Ortiz Walker Pettigrew
Victim Advocate/CSEC Survivor

The H.E.A.T. Institute

Multiple Systems, One Shared Commitment

The Human Exploitation and Trafficking (H.E.A.T.) Institute is an innovative research-based think-tank committed to collaborative approaches that end all forms of Human Trafficking in California.

The H.E.A.T. Institute Blue Ribbon Commission

The H.E.A.T. Institute Blue Ribbon Commission will review and assess the strengths and gaps in current system policies and practices while also considering additional promising practices that support an effective trauma-informed and victim centered response to human trafficking. The commission will achieve this through **six regional summits, interviews with on-the-ground stakeholders, and consultations with CSEC survivors**. Based on information gathered through these activities, the commission will develop a series of recommendations to provide to the state legislature. These recommendations will **inform policies and practices that reform California's public systems** to effectively prevent and protect children from the risks of CSEC and support CSEC victims to recover.

The multi-disciplinary Blue Ribbon Commission will represent diverse voices including **advocates, academics, and public system leaders** with subject matter expertise in child welfare and social services; health care, mental health, and trauma-informed care; probation and law enforcement courts, prosecution, and defense counsel; juvenile justice; and primary, secondary, and special education.

Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley, the sponsor of the H.E.A.T. Institute, will chair the commission. State champions, including Kamala Harris, State Attorney General; Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Supreme Court of California; Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Schools; and Diana S. Dooley, Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency, endorse the Blue Ribbon Commission.

H.E.A.T. Institute Blue Ribbon Commission members will join fellow state leaders in a unified response to end human trafficking and CSEC in California.

California was ranked dead last by Shared Hope International's 2014 "Protected Innocence Challenge" legislative report card. The H.E.A.T. Institute is driven by data and assessment to inform new legislation that is victim centered, trauma-informed and outcome-driven to effectively address this crime and its victims.

WE KNOW WE CAN DO BETTER!



The Alameda County District Attorney's Office: A Track Record of Groundbreaking Initiatives

In 2005, after a decade of fighting human trafficking, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office established the H.E.A.T. (Human Exploitation And Trafficking) Unit, the first of its kind in California and the first in the nation to be housed in a public prosecution office.

In 2006, building on its extensive experience prosecuting human traffickers, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office created H.E.A.T. Watch, an initiative to develop a comprehensive response to all forms of human trafficking in Alameda County. H.E.A.T. Watch uses a 5-point collaborative strategy:

1. Raising community awareness and engaging communities in partnership;
2. Training law enforcement;
3. Aggressively prosecuting offenders;
4. Enhancing and supporting victim services;
5. Promoting sustainable policy changes.



These five points have guided the development and expansion of the Alameda County District Attorney's Office anti-human trafficking work and have been used as a blueprint for combatting human trafficking in communities across the state and country. The H.E.A.T. Institute builds on this five-point strategy at the state level by driving strong partnerships and commitments among statewide agencies to combat human trafficking.

Funding for the H.E.A.T. Institute

In 2015, Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O'Malley was selected for the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award for her work in combating Human Trafficking and particularly child sex trafficking. DA O'Malley has committed the funding she receives from the James Irvine Foundation to launch the H.E.A.T. Institute.



The **James Irvine**
Foundation

For More Information:

For more information about the H.E.A.T. Institute, please contact the Alameda County District Attorney's Office at (510) 891-8901.

Sources:

California Child Welfare Council, *Ending The Commercial Sexual Exploitation Of Children: A Call For Multi-System Collaboration In California* (2013).

National Human Trafficking Resource Center. *Hotline Statistics*. <http://traffickingresourcecenter.org/states>

School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley. *Serving Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Toolkit*. <http://calswec.berkeley.edu/toolkits/serving-commercially-sexually-exploited-children-csec-toolkit>

Southern Area Consortium of Human Services, *Literature Review: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children* (2014).

Regional Information Summits

Zone 8

San Diego

Thursday, October 29, 2015

San Diego County Administrative Complex
1600 Pacific Coast Highway, 3rd Floor, Room 302
San Diego, CA 92101

Zone 7

Los Angeles

Friday, November 20, 2015

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
3rd Floor Board Hearing Room
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Zone 6

Anaheim

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Orange County Family Justice Center
150 West Vermont Avenue
Anaheim, CA 92805

Zone 5

Fresno

Thursday, February 25, 2016

Nielsen Conference Center
3110 W. Nielsen Ave.
Fresno, CA 93706

Zones 1,2 & 3

Sacramento

Thursday, March 24, 2016

The Training Center at California District Attorneys Association
921 11th Street, Suite #300
Sacramento, CA 95814

Zone 4

Oakland

Thursday, April 21, 2016

Laney College, The Forum
900 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Contact Information: (510) 891-8901

Alameda County District Attorney's Office • 1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900 • Oakland, CA 94612