

# COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

A Status Report for our Jurisdiction

January 2015  
Multnomah County  
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## Membership

### EXECUTIVE TEAM

The executive team is a small group that leads the work of the steering committee and determines the direction we need to go. It considers capacity issues, gaps in our system, and recommendations for improving our efforts. This meeting is by invitation only and is held 6 times a year.

**Multnomah County, Commissioner McKeel's office**

**Multnomah County, Dept of Community Justice**

**Multnomah County, District Attorney Office**

**Multnomah County, Dept of County Human Services**

**City of Portland, Police Department**

**State of Oregon, Department of Human Services**

**United States Attorney's Office, District of Oregon**

**Victim Service Advisory Committee (VSAC) Chairs**

**Demand Reduction Chair**

**Victim Service Representatives: Sexual Assault Resource Center & Lifeworks NW**

### CSEC STEERING COMMITTEE (CSEC NETWORK)

The Steering Committee is a large, inclusive group that allows anyone to attend its meetings who is doing work in support of efforts. This group is comprised of agencies that represent the work of the jurisdiction as a whole. While many of the same organizations are represented, more departments and specialized units send attendees, so that it is a diverse group with many areas of expertise to draw upon.

Much of the work done in workgroups will include these members. They produce ideas and recommendations for the executive team. The executive team also draws upon their knowledge when making decisions. This list is not exclusive, as organizations may come and go, or connect with the collaborative efforts in a different way. However, this is a list of agencies that have been regularly attending committee meetings in the last year. These meetings are held 6 months out of the year on the months the executive team does not meet.

**Multnomah County, Commissioner McKeel's office**

**Multnomah County, Dept of Community Justice**

**Multnomah County, District Attorney Office**

**Multnomah County, Sheriff's Office**

**Multnomah County, Dept of County Human Services**

**City of Portland, Police Department**

**State of Oregon, Department of Human Services**

**State of Oregon, Department of Justice**

**United States Attorney's Office, District of Oregon**

**Federal Bureau of Investigations**

**Janus Youth**

**Sexual Assault Resource Center**

**Lifeworks NW and the NOW program**

**Youth Villages**

**Cares NW**

**Youth, Rights & Justice**

**Morrison Child & Family Services**

**Rotary Club of East Portland**

**EPIK**

**Shared Hope International**

**Salvation Army**

**Door to Grace**

**The Giving Connection**

## *Steering Committee Work Groups*

The Steering Committee has a number of workgroups that consist of community partners who are interested in addressing a specific issue. Some of these groups are ongoing, while others come and go to address a specific issue, need, or short-term project.

### **VICTIM SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VSAC)**

VSAC (Formally known as VSIT, the Victim Service Implementation Team) is one of the largest ongoing work groups. To accommodate current needs of the CSEC Service System, the VSAC system of care is being restructured to:

- Address gaps within the CSEC System of Care; and
- Better ensure a continuum of care for victims within our community.

This group consists of a number of direct service providers who gather monthly. Many members of VSAC sit on other committees and are always willing to provide consultation to support our collaborative overarching goal of remaining victim focused.

Because of the importance of this network the Department of County and Human Services contracts with Janus Youth to provide a part-time coordinator who staffs this work group and supports these important efforts.

### **MEDICAL & MENTAL HEALTH**

The Medical & Mental Health workgroup meets in an effort to improve access to medical/and mental health services for victims of CSEC. This year the workgroup has focused on providing better primary care to survivors within Portland Public Schools. They are in the beginning stages of training staff in the school-based health clinics who can provide trauma informed services.

### **LEGISLATIVE WORKGROUP**

The legislative Workgroup meets periodically when there is legislation to review or annually to develop legislative concepts that would help our partners (law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services) in combating the issue of child sex trafficking. This year it provided three concepts to legislators to consider during the 2015 legislative session.

### **DEMAND REDUCTION TEAM**

While the steering committee has had an informal work group to help develop ideas to reduce demand in the past, this year it has been formalized. The lead of the demand group, also the founder of EPIK, a non-profit that seeks to attract men to the fight against child sex trafficking, secured funding to create a formalized team, much like VSAC. This team is charged with developing and implementing strategies in an effort to reduce demand by 20%. This work group consists of EPIK, Portland Police Bureau, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, Multnomah County District Attorney' Office, the Sexual Assault Resource Center, East Portland Rotary and next year they will begin their work.

## SPEAKERS BUREAU

The Community Efforts to Abolish Sexual Exploitation- Information Team (CEASE-IT), also known as the speaker's bureau, is a group of volunteers managed by the CSEC Senior Program Specialist in DCJ. This year the group has completely revised their presentation offerings and will have all past volunteers trained by the end of the year. In the past year the group has given awareness presentation to over 500 people.

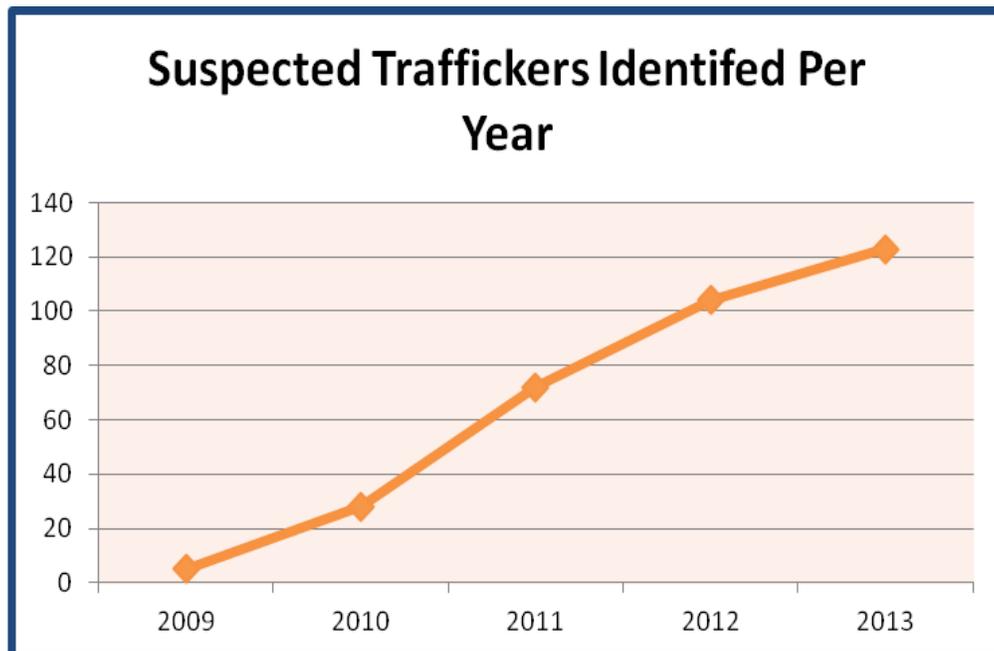
The Giving Connection, a group created to help provide support for survivors and the direct service providers that work with them, connected with CEASE-IT by accepting donations given at awareness presentations, as well as working with groups to develop a fundraising event or drive that provides items that are most useful to the victims service network.

## Multnomah County at a Glance

### LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION, & SUPERVISION

#### *Identification of Suspected Offenders*

Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) actively works to identify and maintain a list of individuals who are suspected of trafficking within our community. As of October 13, 2014, there have been 421 individuals identified. While this isn't a comprehensive list and may not include identifications from other agencies, this is believed to be the largest list within the collaborative. Below is a chart that shows how many individuals have been identified each year.



As the graph above suggests, there is a steady growth in trafficker identification. This does not necessarily indicate that there is a growth in the trafficker population. We know that if one trafficker is no longer active, someone will take their place. No analysis has been done on traffickers identified in the earlier years to determine if they still remain active.

MCSO has continuously improved their efforts at identification. They also have developed strong partnerships with other law enforcement agencies, probation officers, and prosecutors, and that collaboration may lead to information that leads to better identification. Overall, an increase in identification may simply mean we know more of the trafficking population each year.

### *Law Enforcement*

In 2009, Portland Police Bureau (PPB), the largest police agency in the state, made an organizational decision that Measure 11 Compelling Prostitution and Child Sex Trafficking cases were no longer considered “vice” crimes and, instead, would be housed in the Sex Crimes Unit, and later the Human Trafficking Unit. PPB publicly stated that children who were being trafficked were victims, not criminals, and the partnerships and policies that were created stemmed from that philosophy.

In order to make an arrest, the Human Trafficking Unit must have identified a suspect and have enough evidence to charge the individual or proceed to the grand jury. Case building often requires the support of the victim, proactive investigations, and highly specialized training from investigators. The 2009 transition from vice to a major crimes model allowed for that specialized expertise, which included Detectives in this unit becoming experts in interviewing victims with complex trauma and understanding the need for victim restoration in order to build strong cases.

Sgt. Mike Geiger, who has led this effort for PPB, states “The Portland Police, Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office, DHS Child Welfare, the Sexual Assault Resource Center and the United States Attorney’s Office and Lifeworks Northwest, have become the core team in Portland that are most directly involved in the identification, support and recovery of these victims and the prosecution of those who would exploit and victimize this vulnerable population.” He attributes success in law enforcement efforts to the strength of his detectives and the victim services partners whose support leads to more disclosures from victims who are better able to support law enforcement and prosecution efforts.

### *Prosecution of Cases*

The Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office (MCDA) and the United States Attorney’s Office (USAO) are partners in prosecuting sex trafficking cases in our jurisdiction. Both agencies have specialized attorneys that are part of a larger taskforce comprised of state, local and federal law enforcement agencies.

All partners take a victim centered approach and rely on victim services to support survivors and ensure they get the help they need.

**Multnomah County District Attorney's Office (MCDA)**

In May of 2013, the MCDA formed the Human Trafficking Team (HTT) with this principle in mind. The HTT consists of three highly skilled Deputy District Attorneys and a Victim Advocate. Team members are strategically placed in order to maximize their impact on human trafficking within Multnomah County. Specifically, the MCDA has placed HTT members in the Gang Unit, the Domestic Violence Unit and in Eastern Multnomah County.

In recognizing that CSEC is a form of child abuse, the MCDA lobbied for and received funding from the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Fund – the primary source of state funding for coordinated community intervention, assessment, and investigation of child abuse. These funds were then distributed to the Department of Human Services, CARES NW and the MCDA in an effort to expand each agency's focus on CSEC. For the MCDA, this grant funds half of the East County DDA's position, which allows that DDA to focus full-time on CSEC cases involving both traffickers and buyers.

HTT works to protect victims utilizing a three-prong approach: (1) aggressively prosecuting those who engage in human trafficking; (2) reducing demand for exploitation in all its forms; and (3) ensuring adequate protection and support for victims of human trafficking. In order to aggressively prosecute human trafficking offenders, the HTT employs an offender-specific approach. This means that rather than limiting HTT prosecutions to human trafficking related crimes, HTT members can prosecute any crime a human trafficker commits, whether or not the crime itself is human trafficking related.

As of September of 2014, the MCDA has obtained 169 convictions related to persons who engage in human trafficking. These convictions stemmed from 99 discrete individuals, some of who were repeat offenders. The following chart is a graphical representation of convictions by year for cases involving offenders who engage in human trafficking. Specific notable convictions that highlight the work of HTT are found in "conviction success."



As you can see, the HTT’s offender-specific approach has resulted in an increase in the number of human trafficking offenders convicted by the MCDA. Moreover, this approach allows HTT prosecutors to convict offenders without having to rely on victims to participate in prosecution, avoiding an often traumatic process.

In Oregon, the law that targets offenders engaged in trafficking minors is entitled “Compelling Prostitution.” The average prison sentence for offenders convicted of Compelling Prostitution in Multnomah County is 6.4 years. This does not take into account one of the MCDA’s most notable prison sentences, which was life without the possibility of release or parole.

***United States Attorney’s Office, District of Oregon(USAO)***

The United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Oregon (USAO) dedicates significant resources to combat human trafficking. Six Assistant United States Attorneys from the Criminal Division work with four Special Assistant United States Attorneys, and with Victim-Witness Specialists and Asset Recovery Team members to investigate and prosecute interstate prostitution, human trafficking, the enticement of children across state lines for immoral purposes, and the interstate travel of unregistered sex offenders. The USAO participates in the FBI’s Child Exploitation Task Force (CETF), which marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals and organizations exploiting children through sex trafficking, as well as to identify and recover victims.

The USAO works closely with the Multnomah County District Attorney’s Office (MCDA) in evaluating and prosecuting sex trafficking cases in our jurisdiction in order to aggressively prosecute traffickers in an appropriate forum, and to ensure that victims are provided with appropriate services. The USAO also works collaboratively with the United States Department of Justice Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS) and the other 94 USAOs around the country to protect children from sexual exploitation

through the vigorous enforcement of federal laws, and to continuously improve the federal response to these serious crimes. As a result of this, and the focused increase in the number of attorneys who prosecute child exploitation cases, the USAO has more than tripled its sex trafficking prosecutions since 2012.

### *Supervision of Offenders*

In August 2014, Multnomah County, Department of Community Justice (DCJ) reviewed the list of suspected traffickers in the jurisdiction provided by the MCSO and found that DCJ supervised 43.6% of those offenders and five units (Specialized Supervision, Gang, Domestic Violence, Sex Offender, and the North Generic Unit) supervised 80% of all the known traffickers supervised by DCJ.

In addition to the supervision of traffickers, DCJ also supervises individuals who purchase sex with minors. DCJ has worked in partnership with the MCDA's office, the Innovative Counseling Enterprises (the ICE Program), Janus Youth, the Sexual Assault Resource Center, Cares NW, and Lifeworks NW New Options for Woman (NOW) program to create a specialized supervision and treatment package for these types of offenders. The work done in this area moves beyond what is required by law, which is to provide an educational program, to providing individual treatment, intervention and education to help reduce recidivism.

While we traditionally think about supervision in relationship to traffickers and buyers, DCJ also supervises victims who are on supervision for other crimes. For this reason, we have a specialized caseworker for youth who are on probation but who have also been identified as being a child sex trafficking survivor. This Juvenile Justice Counselor understands the dynamics of sex trafficking, the trauma endured, its effects on behavior, and other unique needs relevant to working with survivors.

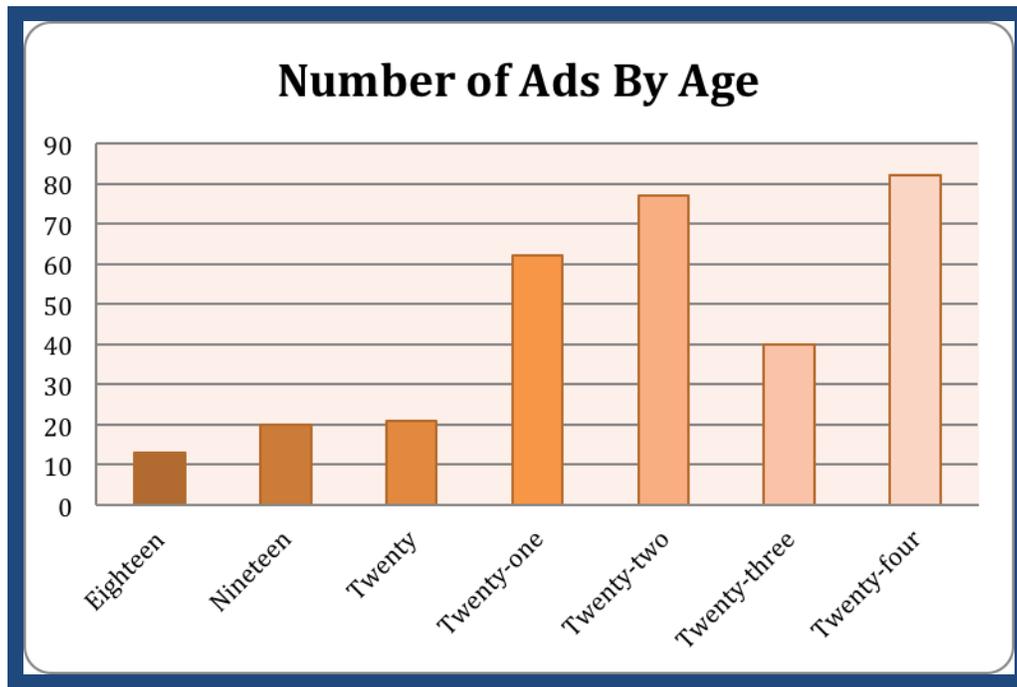
Additionally, DCJ created a Crime Victim Services Unit that provides the department with victim-focused consultation on policy and procedures, offers in-house training, and ensures crime victim rights are integrated into supervision practices. Within this unit there is a CSEC Sr. Program Specialist that does the above work internally within the department, while also providing technical assistance and consultation to numerous agencies on best practices, program development, and continuous improvement as it related to child sexual exploitation issues.

In addition to the specialized CSEC position, Crime Victim Services supports the larger work of the collaboration by partially funding a position at Lifeworks NW NOW program to provide counseling and support services to women who are under DCJ supervision and are also currently being victimized through prostitution.

### *Demand Reduction*

There are many places for buyers to find a child to purchase for sex. One of the better known online sites is Backpage.com. Children are typically advertised in the "young" age bracket, which is generally considered 18-24 years of age. In a search conducted over a one week period, 410 ads were posted to

Backpage.com. Of those postings, 315, or 76.8%, were of individuals who claimed to be between the ages of 18 and 24.

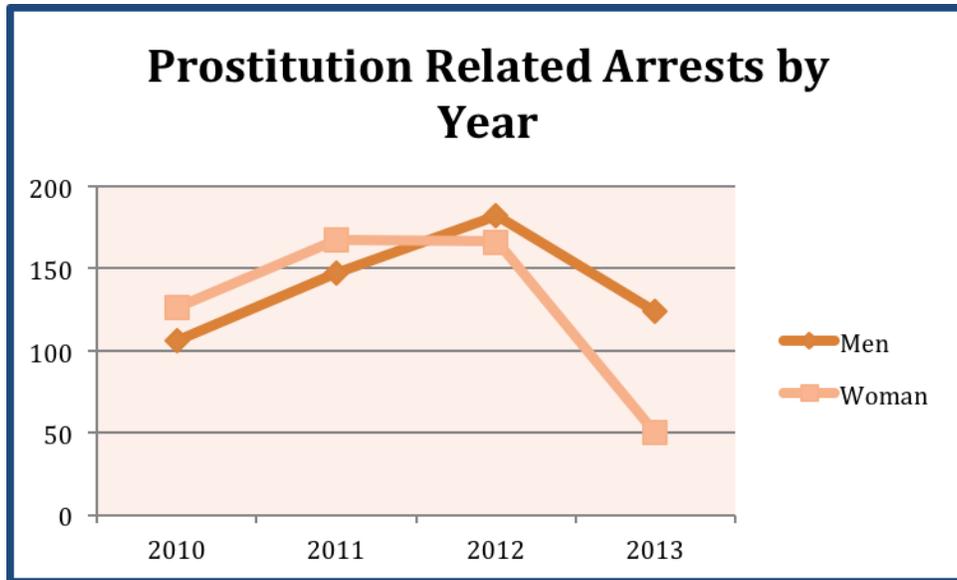


In an effort to understand the buyer behavior, a partner agency<sup>1</sup> reviewed their internal data. They found, over a three month period, that the average number of responses to one ad was 36.4 contacts. If this average is applied to the 315 weekly ads posted in Portland, Oregon for 18-24 year olds, we find that there may be over 11,000 separate calls made per week attempting to purchase sex in the age bracket that is most likely to contain underage victims.

Law enforcement has also taken an active response to addressing demand in our community. Portland Police Bureau has created the Sex Trafficking Unit (formally known as the Prostitution Coordination Team or PCT) which has 4 Officers and a Sergeant whose primary focus is on reducing demand. This unit is a strong partner in the community and the collaboration since their creation in 2009. Since its creation, The Sex Trafficking Unit has arrested 637 men for prostitution related crimes. This team has also been involved or assisted in the arrest of 29 traffickers.

When we review the arrest data since 2009, we see an interesting change in how demand is addressed by law enforcement. As the graph below shows, at the Sex Trafficking Unit's creation, women were typically arrested more than men. However, today we see that reversed, with the buyers, or men, being arrested more than women.

<sup>1</sup> Partner Agency has asked to remain anonymous so they can continue to be effective in their work.



It is important to note that the reduction we see in the arrest of women does not indicate that demand is being reduced. It is instead a conscious choice by the officers of the Sex Trafficking Unit to handle these cases differently – meaning women are treated as victims, not criminals. As a collaboration, we understand that victimization does not stop because someone has become a legal adult. The Sex Trafficking Unit officers’ primary goal for the women they encounter is to offer them support services and treatment options. The goal is to support them in recovery. Because of that, officers spend a lot more resources working with victims.

However, this is not always possible, and when needed, the woman is arrested. Even in these instances, services and treatment are offered and even court mandated. The Sex Trafficking Unit has developed partnerships with the Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC), DCJ, Lifeworks NW New Options for Woman, and the prosecution to provide a robust service-oriented response to adult women who are being prostituted. This partnership provides these women with the opportunity to access the mental health and advocacy support they need.

Because of their focus on providing survivors with the resources they need, officers recognized there was a gap in the resources they could provide. Frequently, the officers had urgent needs for a victim and community organizations and groups had the resources to fulfill those needs but there wasn’t a way to easily communicate or ask for assistance. Mike Gallegher, an officer with the Sex Trafficking Unit, brought together these groups who ultimately funded and developed an online system where direct service providers and the police can post urgent needs and get a timely response from the organizations. This system, called Bridging the Gap, does exactly that.

#### *John School*

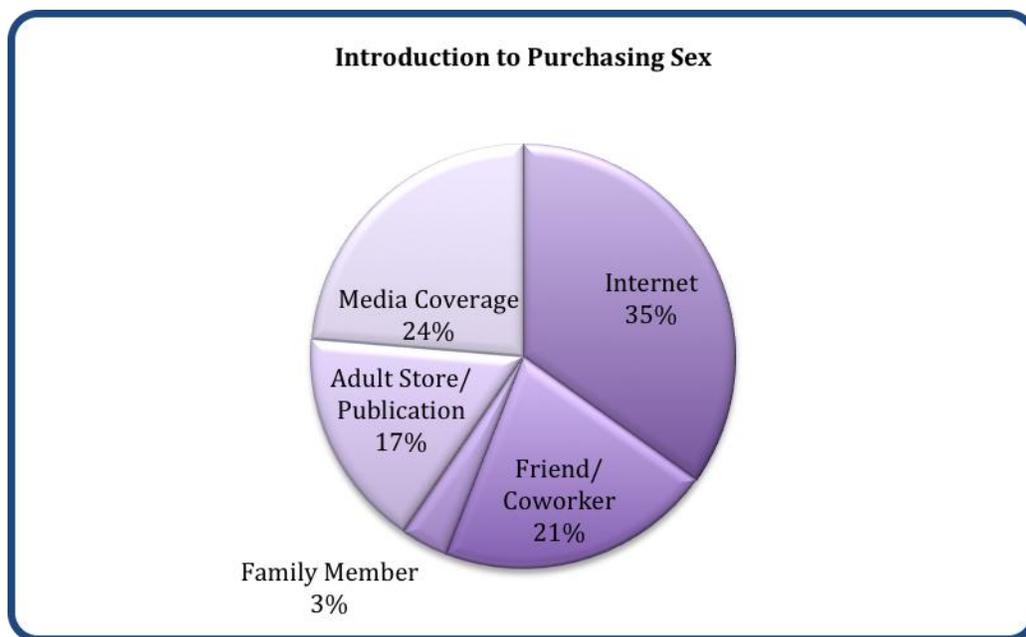
In 2011, a specialized program, known as the Sex Buyers Accountability and Diversion Program (SBAD), was created in an effort to reduce the demand for commercial sex trafficking. SBAD, which is only

available to buyers who have been arrested for purchasing or attempting to purchase sex with an adult, seeks to change buyers' future decision-making by educating them about the legal, social and health ramifications of the commercial sex trade. Specifically, the SBAD curriculum examines the dynamics of the trafficker/victim relationship, the impact on victims, community impact, and potential consequences relating to the buyer's health, relationships and interaction with the criminal justice system.

Since its inception, SBAD has been a collaborative project involving Lifeworks NW NOW Program, Portland Police Bureau's Sex Trafficking Unit, MCDA's Office, SARC, and Multnomah County's Health Department. These agencies, along with DCJ and Commissioner McKeel's Office meet every other month to review the program and consider any additional enhancements.

Thus far, 312 participants have attended this program. Over the last 3 years, SBAD has allowed us to obtain a great deal of information about buyers. This program has found that the majority of buyers are employed (80%), married (52%), have children (64%), and have a gross yearly income of \$50,000 or less (58%).

In a review of how buyers were first introduced to the idea of purchasing sex, 58% reported that they were introduced to this idea by the internet or media coverage.



The buyers are almost entirely male. In a review of individuals arrested for patronizing a prostitute in Multnomah County we found that 71% of the buyers come from Oregon, 26% come from Washington, and 3% come from other states<sup>2</sup>. At the county level we see only half of the arrested individuals living within Multnomah County. The second largest group was from Clark County Washington accounting for

<sup>2</sup> Other States include: Minnesota, Nevada, Arkansas, California, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin.

23% of the arrests. Overall, we see 27.78% of Oregon Counties<sup>3</sup> and 17.9% of Washington Counties<sup>4</sup> represented in the arrests.

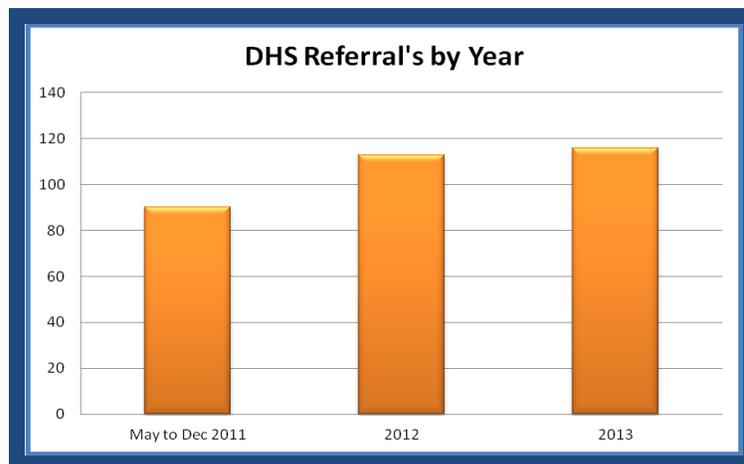
### CHILD VICTIM IDENTIFICATION & VICTIM SERVICES

In 2013, at the request of Amanda Marshall, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, PSU Professor Chris Carey provided a report that began to address the scope of victimization occurring in Portland. This report found 469 unduplicated victims of CSEC within a 5-year period. While we are grateful for the identifications which have been made, we also are aware that this is just the tip of the problem. For this reason, success is seeing an *increase* in the number of identifications and youth served. This would indicate not that we have a growing problem, but our growing solution is doing better at identifying individuals in need.

#### DHS CSEC Unit

Oregon's Department of Human Services (DHS) has created a specialized unit to address CSEC cases, recognizing the child as a victim of sexual abuse and/or exploitation. This unit has been in operation since May 2011 and since that time there have been 379 referrals to the unit for assessment. There are approximately 65 youth served in this unit at any given time on cases opened after assessment.

The unit is comprised of six DHS workers and one supervisor. Of the six workers, one is a child protective services (CPS) worker who assesses allegations of abuse and neglect. After assessment, the case may be opened for services if needed due to an active safety threat to a youth, either with voluntary cooperation by a parent/guardian, by juvenile court involvement, or through a voluntary Family Support Services (FSS) case. If the case is opened, it is transferred to one of five permanency workers who continue to work with the youth and family. One of the five permanency positions is currently funded through a Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) grant. This position is currently funded for the 2013-2015 fiscal year.



<sup>3</sup> Oregon Counties: Benton, Co. OR, Clackamas Co., OR, Clatsop Co., OR, Columbia Co., OR, Deschutes Co., OR, Linn Co., OR, Marion/Polk Co., OR, Multnomah Co., OR, Washington Co., OR, Yamhill Co., OR.

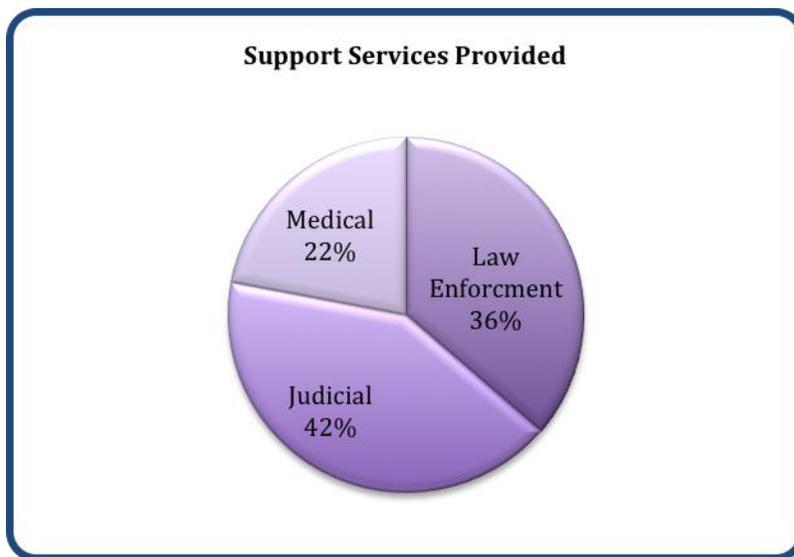
<sup>4</sup> Washington Counties Clark Co., WA, Cowlitz Co., WA, Klickitat Co., WA, Pierce Co., WA, Snohomish Co., WA, Skamania co., WA, Thurston co., WA.

DHS has developed strong partnerships with law enforcement, advocates and designated medical professionals, such as PPB, FBI, SARC, Janus Youth Program and Lifeworks NW in order to gather information and work with youth. The collaborative approach benefits DHS but more importantly provides the child with a continuity of care.

### *Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC) - Advocates*

The Sexual Assault Resource Center has provided confidential advocates to child victims of sex trafficking for nearly six years. Advocates provide both 24-hour emergency response services as well as long-term case management support. The advocates work closely with all partners, including local and federal law enforcement agencies in the tri-county area, in juvenile justice settings, and with other victim service providers. They have supported over 450 unduplicated survivors, providing them with a wide range of services, supports, and resource connections. These services can include support and assistance during law enforcement and judicial proceedings, assisting with access to healthcare, clothing, crisis supplies and food. SARC advocates also support them in their long-term goals such school planning and enrollment, and job training.

In the last fiscal year (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014), SARC received 42 new cases. They served on average 68 youth per month, and each month the majority of clients received more than 2 hours of service (average of 64%). In reviewing the entire year, SARC has provided law enforcement, judicial, or medical services 168 times.



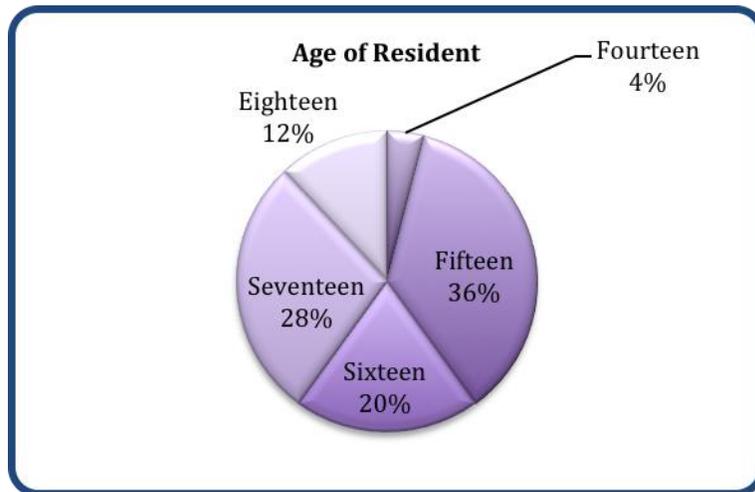
In the last year SARC has added to their services, recognizing that when youth turn eighteen, they typically age out of other services and feel a loss in their support systems. The new program, RYSE (Resilient Survivors Empowerment Program), provides these young adults with age appropriate support at a drop-in center. Though formally developed In January 2014, SARC had been providing services to this population in the six months prior. During that time, they served an average of 28.3 individuals per month. With the formalization of the RYSE program, we have seen a dramatic increase in service (avg. 58.6 individuals served per month).

*Janus Youth - Athena House – CSEC Shelter*

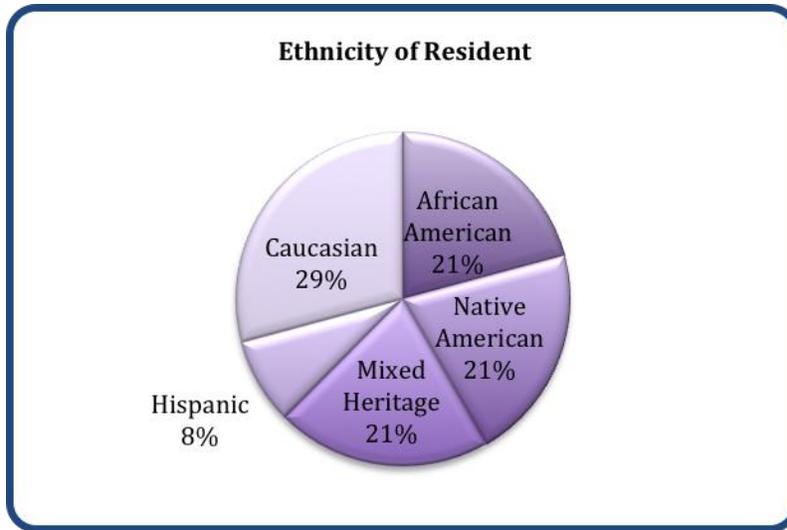
Athena House is a co-ed emergency shelter and long-term housing option (up to 18 months) designed to house 7 youth ages 14 to 21. Athena House provides their own case management and mentors to support the survivors, but also connects residents to partner agency services to support their recovery and stabilization. Janus Youth has strong partnerships with SARC and Lifeworks NW who provide advocacy and mental health counseling services to the youth staying at Athena House.

Over the last fiscal year (June 1, 2013-July 31, 2014) 83% of the residents met with a SARC advocate after arriving at Athena House and 68.7% received some level of mental health support/counseling from Life works NW. Additionally, Janus, SARC, LifeWorks NW, and DHS meet regularly to provide an integrated system of care and support for these youth.

Over the same time period, Athena House residents stayed an average of 35 days, though these days may not have been consecutive. The residents spanned the ages of 14 to 18, with 15 years of age being the most frequently seen.



When we look at the ethnicity reported by the residents, we see a diverse population, and it becomes clear how important it is to provide services that are culturally responsive in all areas of victim service.



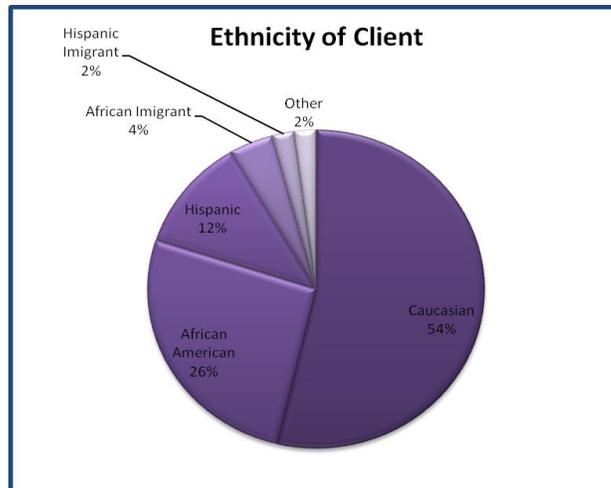
This data suggests we should be concerned with racial disparity, that is, some races being disproportionately affected by this crime type. This is discussed in more detail in the “Racial Disparity Section”.

#### *Lifeworks NW*

Lifeworks Northwest is Mental Health and Addictions agency which has provided CSEC-specific services to youth for over six years. Mental Health therapists and Addictions counselors offer trauma informed services, which include urgent assessments, therapy, skills training, crisis support, case management, educational advocacy, consultation, psychiatric evaluations and medication management services. Lifeworks NW has dedicated a group of specially trained therapists and addictions counselors to work within a unique and innovative clinical model, to participate in the community effort and impact the lives of children affected by sexual exploitation.

In the last fiscal year (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014), Lifeworks Northwest has served 96 youth. Of those 96 youth, 83 identify as female, 11 identify as male, and 2 identify as transgendered. The percentage of male victims, in particular, is substantially higher than what we have seen in past reports, such as the PSU report which found close to 2.8% of the identified children to be male. Lifeworks NW is an advocate for the male survivors, working closely with other victim service providers and law enforcement to increase identification and provide better services to this often overlooked population.

The Ethnicity of the clients served is located below. As we saw in previous sections, Lifeworks NW serves a diverse population. In the “Racial Disparity” section of this report we will look at this data against the Census Data for Multnomah County.



Lifeworks NW, like SARC and Janus Youth, recognizes the need for specialized services beyond the age of 18. They have created a new transitional services to support this population, along with adult services of the NOW program described in the law enforcement sections.

In addition to direct services, Lifeworks CSEC staff have offered over 40 trainings to community partners and other organizations within the community, including schools, other mental health agencies, and town hall meetings.

### *Door to Grace*

Door to Grace was founded in 2010 as a 501(c)(3) faith based non-profit serving children rescued from sex trafficking. Door to Grace provides daytime services and, if necessary, host homes for youth who are survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. The program serves females between the age of 14 and 17 and, though they do not provide professionally health or mental health services, they work with many partners to connect youth with the services they need.

Referrals for services typically come from other collaborative partners, such as DHS, SARC, Lifeworks, and other agencies that are qualified to determine if a child is a good fit for the services.

The host homes are possible because Door to Grace is an Oregon-Licensed Private Child Care Agency. The organization certifies private homes and families and allows the youth to actively participate in the decision to stay with one of the host families. This model allows the child to get to know a family before making any decisions and offers a unique way to ensure that a child has a home that is ready to support them.

The day program helps the child sustain their progression from surviving to thriving, but providing the following services through their REACH program:

- Restoration – Physical, mental and spiritual health
- Education – High school graduation or GED, college or trade school
- Activities – Crafts, music, dance, bicycling, bowling, etc.

- Community – Community dinners and service projects
- Home – Shopping, cooking, laundry, financial management – home skills

## **AWARENESS, PREVENTION & TRAINING**

Awareness, Prevention & Training are critical pieces to the collaboration, and all members of the collaboration support and participate in these efforts. In a recent article published by the Justice Research and Statistics Association, Farrell and McDevitt found that 39% of all human trafficking identifications are made through a tip<sup>5</sup>. General awareness of community members is crucial so that they know what they are looking at if they see it and they know who to report it too. Similarly, providing specialized training for agencies and organizations that are most likely to come across victims will aid in better identification and how the individual responds to that survivor.

### *Training's & Presentations Provided this Year*

The partners in the collaboration understand the importance of trainings and have developed numerous options. Below is a list of trainings available in our jurisdiction by our partners. Many of these trainings have been offered locally, regionally, and nationally.

#### **Collaborative Presentations**

- Turning Law Into Action: Supervising Buyers who purchases Sex from Minors. *Presented by Multnomah County District Attorney's Office and Multnomah County Department of Community Justice*
- Sex Trafficking for Domestic Violence Training *Presented by Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, Lifeworks NOW Program*
- John School *Presented by Lifeworks NOW, Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, Sexual Assault Resource Center, Multnomah County Health Department, and Portland Police Bureau*
- Hotel Awareness & Response to Human Trafficking *Presented by Portland Police Bureau, Multnomah County District Attorney's Office and made possible thanks to East Portland Rotary.*

#### **Multnomah County, Department of Community Justice**

- Do you have a Pimp on your Caseload? Understanding the Complex issue of child sex trafficking and how to identify and supervise the pimp.
- Child Sex Trafficking: Understanding the Dynamics & How to identify and work with youth in a Juvenile Justice Setting
- Offender Online Activity Training
- Health Department New Hire Awareness & Identification
- Multnomah County's Collaborative Response to CSEC
- CSEC Awareness 101
- Boy Strength Instructor Training

#### **Multnomah County District Attorney's Office**

- Realities of Sex Trafficking

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<sup>5</sup> Farrell, A. & McDevitt, J. (2014). Hidden in Plain Sight: Challenges to identifying investigating and prosecuting Human Trafficking. *The Justice Research and Statistics Association, Vol. 32(3)*. Retrieved from: [http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/forum/sep2014\\_32-3/trafficking.htm](http://www.jrsa.org/pubs/forum/sep2014_32-3/trafficking.htm)

- Taking the Weight off the victim
- Identifying Sex Trafficking in Apartment Complexes – A Landlord Forum
- Sex Trafficking 101
- Sex Trafficking & Multnomah County – A Victim-Centered Approach

#### **Portland Police Bureau**

- Sex trafficking Awareness Presentations for public
- Sex trafficking Awareness Presentation for law enforcement
- High School Awareness Presentations
- Collaborating with Partners to support Victims Needs

#### **United States Attorney’s Office, District of Oregon**

- Investigating and Prosecuting Sex Trafficking Cases in the District of Oregon - advanced training for local detectives, federal agents, and federal probation and pre-trial officers.
- Investigating and Prosecuting Sex Trafficking Cases in the District of Oregon for Lewis and Clark Law School students.
- Presentations on Investigating and Prosecuting Sex Trafficking Cases in the District of Oregon for community groups.
- High School Awareness Presentations

#### **Janus Youth**

- How the Victim Services System Works Collaboratively
- CSEC Awareness Presentations
- CSEC Conference Panels

#### **Lifeworks NW**

- CSEC Identification and Resources
- CSEC and Mental Health
- CSEC: Identification and Treatment Interventions
- CSEC and the Brain

#### **Sexual Assault Resource Center - CSEC Team Awareness Presentations**

- CSEC 101, Basics and How to Help
- CSEC Awareness presentations
- Child Sex Trafficking Intermediate Training
- CSEC Conference Panel’s
- CESEC training for School Staff
- CSEC training for High School Medical Staff
- CSEC General awareness

#### **Cares NW**

- Bought and Sold: Trafficking of our Children
- Bought and Sold: Health Needs of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) in our Community
- Medical Care of Child Sex Trafficking Victims

- Identification and Care of CSEC
- Assessment, Exam, Interview of CSEC
- Medical Response to CSEC
- Introduction to Child Sex Trafficking
- Child Sex Trafficking training for midwives
- Using a Victim/Survivor Centered Approach When Working with Trafficked Youth
- Interviewing & Child Trafficking
- Extreme Forms of Child Abuse: Torture and Trafficking
- Medical Assessment of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children
- Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation
- The Demand Side: Traffickers, Buyers and Gangs

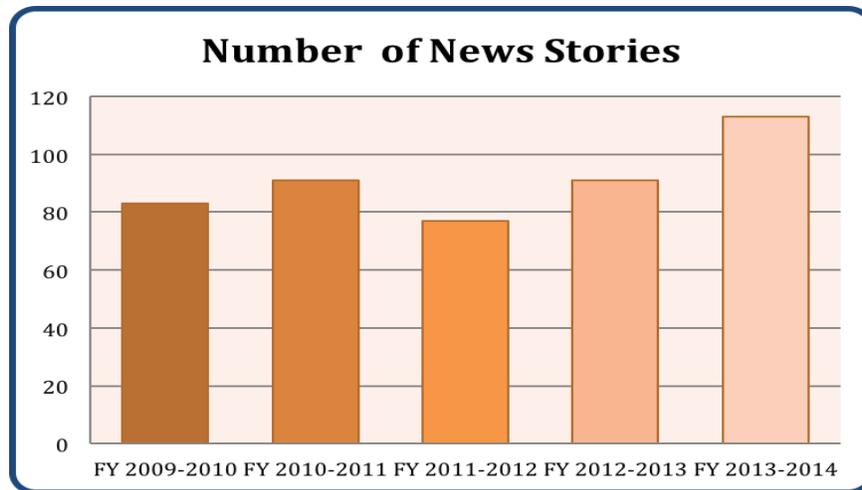
### *Media Representation*

Within the social sciences, numerous studies have been conducted on the effect that the news media has on public perception of particular crime issues. Similarly, how pop culture portrays issues can have an effect on behavior and assumptions. Over the last decade or two, there has been a notable difference in the language that is used when we talk about child sex trafficking across the nation. It is becoming commonplace to say commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), child sex trafficking, human trafficking, or domestic minor sex trafficking instead of child prostitution. Therefore, the child has become a victim of the above rather than being labeled as a prostitute, who by definition engages in illegal activities. This shift in language has also led to a change in how we respond to victims of this crime, as we saw in the law enforcement section. Simply recognizing the victimization allows for a better response to the child.

A LexisNexis search of news articles that were published in The Oregonian, the Daily Journal of Commerce, and the Portland Business Journal over the last five fiscal years (July 1 through June 30 of the following calendar year) was conducted. It was found that there were 455 articles on the general topic published from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2014<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> LexisNexis search term for articles: "sex trafficking" or (commercial sexual exploitation) or "CSEC" or (minor sex trafficking) or "child sex trafficking" or "human trafficking" or "pimp" "trafficker" or "child prostitute" or "Prostitution"



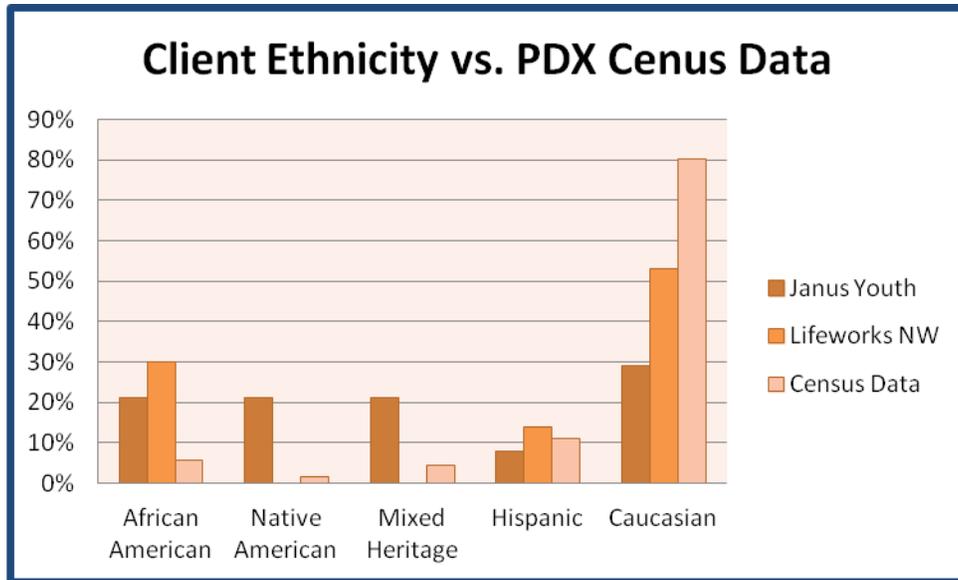
While there is some consistency around the number of articles published with some growth during the last fiscal year, additional research will need to be done to review the quality and temperature of the articles. For example: In the last five years, have we seen the same change in the language used when talking about survivors of sex trafficking? Are these articles about arrests and convictions? System improvements? System criticisms? This qualitative analysis will give us more insight into how this issue is being viewed publicly within our own jurisdiction, as public perception is often shaped by news media.

### *Further Discussion & Recommendations*

#### **RACIAL DISPARITIES**

As a jurisdiction, we should be concerned if specific populations are disproportionately affected by a specific crime. In this brief report, we were able to see the ethnic breakdown of Athena house residents and Lifeworks, NW CSEC clients. Both agencies show a diversity amount their clients, however, Portland is not diverse by comparison. The chart below shows the percentage of each ethnicity reported by the clients as compared to Portland’s census data. The chart highlights a possible disparity for the African American, Native American, and mixed heritage populations. Conversely, we see that Caucasians are underrepresented, given that they make up approximately 80% of the Portland population.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/41/41051.html>



The PSU report found similar disparities, most notably among African Americans. However, the PSU report is missing 27% of the ethnicities for the identified youth, which could begin to show disparities in other minority populations, as Athena House residents may suggest. It is recommended we look at our larger system to get a true scope of the problem.

With further analysis, the racial disparities will likely extend beyond the population of victims and include the trafficker and suspected trafficker population as well. Many of the identified traffickers are not Caucasian and further analysis would likely show that disparity. This is not to suggest that certain races are more likely to offend in this way, it may only suggest that how we currently identify trafficker needs to be examined. We hypothesize that trafficking may look different among different cultures, but that our visual identifiers target only some of the trafficking population.

It is important as we move forward with our awareness, prevention, identification and law enforcement strategies that we have a clear understanding of these issues and that we intentionally address these concerns. Recommendation would include a more in-depth analysis of the scope of the problem and establishing a response across our efforts based on those results.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR**

- Overall System
  - Look at the entire systems demographics (both offenders and victims) and develop a response plan.
  - Look at the entire systems response to the victimization of males and transgender youth.
  - The increased awareness that gangs are using sex trafficking as a commodity, should lead to increased partnerships across disciplines to approach the problem collaboratively.

- Ensure survivor voice throughout our system.
- Victim Services - CSEC system of care (SOC)
  - Develop documentation for the ideal CSEC system of care and look at gaps in our system. Including, but not limited to addressing issues such as:
    - Responsiveness to diversity of victims
    - Racial/Ethnic responsiveness
    - Young adult transition as they age out of services
  - Align the SOC with current trauma informed care best practices and models.
  - Document, for distribution, how we serve victims in our jurisdictions.
- Focus on demand – Further develop our strategies for demand reduction and measure success for continuous improvement.
- Continue enhancements to arrest, prosecution and supervision strategies.

### *Recent Achievements in our Jurisdiction*

#### **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT**

##### **Portland, Oregon receives funding to reduce demand.**

Tom Perez with the EPIK project has received funding to create a demand-focused work group under the steering committee. The group will focus on five demand reducing strategies in an effort to reduce demand by 20%. Tom received funding to support a coordinator position and formalize the work that has already begun. EPIK will lead the group, and the core team includes members for MCDA, DCJ, SARC, Portland Police, and East Portland Rotary Club.

##### **SARC and Self Enhancement, Inc (SEI) have partnered to develop a cultural specific prevention program.**

In Portland, Oregon, African Americans are disproportionately represented in the child victim population as well as the trafficker population. This partnership hopes to reduce the disparity by providing middle and high school student with long-term prevention programming.

##### **New specialized supervision and treatment program for offenders who purchase sex with minors developed.**

In 2013, Oregon created a new felony crime targeting buyers who purchase, or attempt to purchase, sex from a minor. Along with other mandatory penalties, the law requires a John School to help reduce recidivism. With the support of a number of community partners (MCDA, DCJ, Cares Northwest, Lifeworks NW NOW, SARC, Janus Youth, and Innovative Counseling Enterprises), Multnomah County concluded that the “John school” needed to include individualized education and treatment programs for each offender convicted of this crime. The end result: offenders will be supervised by DCJ’s sex offender unit and receive a John School Package, tailored to address each offenders’ treatment needs. The specialized treatment program will be provided by Innovative Counseling Enterprises.

##### **Morrison Child & Family Services was selected by the State to receive over two million dollars to open a State residential program for young sex trafficking victims.**

This program will open in December and provides comprehensive services to females and transgendered youth who are 11 to 15 years of age.

**The system better supports survivors as they enter adulthood.**

Victimization doesn't end when a child turns 18. However, often services do. This year many patterns expanded or added services to address the gap in services as a superior transitions into adulthood.

***Janus Youth and SARC increase the age of survivors they are able to serve.***

Thanks to funding by the City of Portland, Janus Youth now accepts survivors up to the age of 21 and SARC offers survivors support through the age of 25.

***Lifeworks NW New Options for Woman program received funding to create a new position.***

Thanks to funding by the City of Portland and Multnomah County, DCJ, the New Options for Women Program was able to increase their capacity to better serve adult survivors.

***Lifeworks NW creates a transitional program***

Lifeworks NW now has a program that is target for the young adult age bracket to help them move from youth to adult services.

**SURVIVOR & VICTIM SERVICE SUCCESS**

**100% of School-aged Door to Grace Girls Enrolled in School Fall of 2014!**

For many survivors, childhood trauma and relocation has caused sporadic school attendance and educational challenges. This fall, each girl who should be in school has a school placement and is currently attending. We are grateful for the community partnerships that help us find suitable placements for our girls.

**PPB's Sex Trafficking unit, Lifeworks NW NOW, and SARC work together to encourage change.**

A woman with a long history of victimization has graduated from the Lifeworks NOW program. Prior to the collaborative efforts of this group, the victim had more than 30 documented police contacts over the last three years and at least 60 undocumented contacts related to prostitution. Since graduation, she has had no police contact. Successes like these take resources, dedication, and hard work by everyone involved.

**CONVICTION SUCCESS**

*Multnomah County District Attorney*

**Gregory Hightower received life without the possibility of parole.**

Mr. Hightower was found guilty by a jury of: Encouraging Child Sex Abuse in the First Degree, Sex Abuse in the Second Degree, 4 counts of Compelling Prostitution and Promoting Prostitution. Mr. Hightower, a 42 year old male, was involved with females ranging from 16-22 years old. He forced them to prostitute and would provide controlled substances as a way to groom females into performing prostitution acts.

**Sirgiorgio Clardy received 100 years in prison.**

Based on combined efforts by the FBI task force, transit police and Portland Police Bureau detectives, Mr. Clardy was convicted of: 2 counts of Compelling Prostitution, 4 counts of Promoting Prostitution,

Assault, Robbery, Tampering with Evidence, and 4 counts of Tampering with a Witness. Mr. Clardy trafficked a single adult victim for multiple months, forcing her to work in both Portland and Las Vegas. Mr. Clardy was extremely violent towards his victim and others. One of Mr. Clardy's Assault convictions stemmed from a violent attack on one of the buyers who purchased his victim. Mr. Clardy was found to be a dangerous offender, making it possible for the court to sentence him to 100 years.

**Demetrius Webb purchased a minor for sex and received 12 years in prison.**

Mr. Webb was one of four buyers investigated based on a call for help from a minor victim. This call for help resulted in indictments for two traffickers, indictments for four buyers and identification of three minor victims. Mr. Webb not only engaged in prostitution with the minor victim, but also photographed multiple minors while engaging in prostitution activity with them. Mr. Webb was convicted of 3 counts of Using Child in Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct, Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree and Patronizing a Prostitute.

*United States Attorney Office, District of Oregon*

**U.S. v. Keith Lawrence McMurray. McMurray was convicted of child sex trafficking and was sentenced to 204 months in prison.**

McMurray recruited the victim into prostitution when she was 17 years old. He used various prostitution websites to advertise the minor and even posed as a customer in order to promote her on one of the websites. McMurray also filmed sex acts with the minor victim.

**U.S. v. Steven Anthony Kidd. Kidd was convicted of child sex trafficking and sentenced to 12 years in prison.**

Kidd trafficked a minor female for nearly a year. Kidd transported the victim to Medford, Albany, Eugene, Corvallis, Harrisburg and Portland, Oregon, as well as cities in Washington. He obtained hotel rooms, posted ads soliciting sex and collected proceeds from the sex trafficking. He imposed a set of rules for the victim to follow and subjected her to physical abuse.

**U.S. v. Ben Allen Riggs. Riggs, the first federal "john" case prosecuted in the District of Oregon, paid for commercial sex with 14-year-old.**

He pled guilty to a Mann Act charge and was sentenced to 24 months in prison. The trafficker of the 14 year old trafficking victim was also convicted and sentenced to 48 months in prison.

*Joint Prosecution*

**Christopher Graham received 30 years in federal prison.**

Mr. Graham was found guilty in federal court of Sex Trafficking By Force, Fraud or Coercion and 2 counts of Tampering with a Witness. Mr. Graham's case was tried by a cross-designated member of the MCDA's HTT along with an Assistant US Attorney. Mr. Graham, who had already served a 10 year sentence for Compelling Prostitution back in the 90s, trafficked an adult victim throughout the United States. Over a six month period, Mr. Graham inflicted multiple serious injuries on his victim, including breaking her back.

## *ANACRONYM GLOSSARY*

CAMI- Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention

CSEC- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

CEASE-IT- Multnomah Counties volunteer Speakers Bureau (also stands for Community Effort to Abolish Sexual Exploitation – Information Team)

DCHS- Multnomah County, Department of County Human Services

DCJ- Multnomah County, Department of Community Justice

DHS- Oregon State, Department of Human Services

HTT- Multnomah County District Attorney office, Human Trafficking Team

MCDA- Multnomah County District Attorney

MCSO-Multnomah County Sheriff's Office

PPB- Portland Police Bureau

PCT- Portland Police Bureau, Prostitution Coordination Team –now known as the Sex Trafficking Unit.

SARC- Sexual Assault Resource Center

VSAC- The Victim Services Advisory Committee( formally known as VSIT- Victim Service Implementation Team)

USAO- United States Attorney's Office, District of Oregon