



MULTNOMAH COUNTY
AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST (revised 09/22/08)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 6/28/11
Agenda Item #: B.2
Est. Start Time: 11:00 am
Date Submitted: 6/22/11

Agenda Title: Board Briefing on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children System of Care.

Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: 6/28/11 Amount of Time Needed: 60 minutes
Department: District 4 – Commissioner McKeel Division: Non-Dept.
Contact(s): Corie Wiren
Phone: 503-988-5213 Ext. 26234 I/O Address: 503/6th

Presenter(s): Commissioner Diane McKeel, Erin Ellis, Mary Li, Dennis Morrow and Kathleen Treb.

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

None. This is an informational briefing for the Board.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Obtaining a child for the purposes of a commercial sex act is a crime that involves coercion, forced labor, threats and violence against children. Child victims of sexual exploitation are sometimes referred to as trafficking victims or victims of sexual exploitation.

Though it has been widely recognized that commercialized sexual exploitation of children occurs in many parts of the world, its existence and pervasiveness in the U.S. has only recently emerged as an issue that warrants increased awareness and action. This is because the commercial sexual exploitation of children happens very differently than other forms of child sexual abuse or rape; the trafficker/pimp grooms the child using a complex pattern of intense manipulation and feigned affection, brutal violence, and verbal, psychological, and/or emotional abuse. The pimp is motivated primarily by the pursuit of money. He keeps all the money from the commercial sex acts of the children he controls and prides himself on achieving higher and higher levels of blind obedience. This creates a challenge for

social/health service providers, law enforcement, and the public to identify victims. The victim themselves rarely realize that they are in fact a victim.

In October 2009, Multnomah County was awarded a 3 year collaboration grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to assist in better coordinating our efforts to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). A steering committee was formed in partnership with Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. There are regular committee meetings with community partners to create a coordinated community response to victim services, enforcement and prosecution of pimps and buyers, ending demand, and continuing to raise awareness.

The Victim Services Planning Committee created a model for a system of care for victims of CSEC that takes into account current services and gaps. One of the largest missing pieces is effective housing that addresses victims' level of trauma and tendency to run multiple times from placements. The continuum of care articulates the need for emergency beds, longer term congregate care housing and long term culturally competent foster care homes.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

The budget amendment placed \$258,420 into contingency in the adopted FY12 Budget. The City of Portland, the faith community, JANUS and other partner organizations have also contributed to the system of care.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

This is in response to the budget note proposed by Commissioner McKeel and adopted by the entire Board of County Commissioners in the FY12 Budget. The budget note states that a briefing on the CSEC System of Care would take place before the end of July.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

In October 2009, Multnomah County was awarded a collaboration grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. There are regular committee meetings with community partners to create a coordinated community response to the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC).

Required Signature

**Elected Official or
Department/
Agency Director:**

Diane McKeel

Date: June 21, 2011