Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is a form of child abuse. It happens when individuals buy, trade, or sell sexual acts with a child under the age of 18.

CSEC victims are boys and girls from different cultures, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds. Any child can become a victim; however children between the ages of 12 and 15 years old, those with emotional and physical needs, runaways, and children experiencing trouble at home are particularly vulnerable.

Pimps are predators who seek out vulnerable victims. They use psychological manipulation to make the child believe that the pimp truly cares for his or her well-being, as well as physical control in the form of threats, violence, or drug addiction, to make the victim feel trapped and powerless. While pimps often target children outside of their family, a family member may also sexually exploit a child.

“Johns” are the customers who solicit and purchase sexual acts performed by victims of CSEC.

If you think you know a child who may be a victim of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, call Dr. Kimberly McGrath at Citrus Health Network: (305) 424-3031

Potential Indicators of Trafficking and Exploitation:
- History of trafficking, sexual, or other physical abuse.
- Signs of current physical abuse and/or sexually transmitted diseases.
- History of running away or current status as a runaway
- Inexplicable appearance of expensive gifts, clothing, new cell phones, hair and nail styles, or other costly items
- Presence of an older boyfriend or girlfriend
- Substance use and drug addiction
- Withdrawal or lack of interest in previous activities
- Gang involvement
Citrus Helping Adolescents Negatively impacted by Commercial Exploitation

What SERVICES DOES CITRUS HEALTH NETWORK PROVIDE TO VICTIMS OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION?

Children in The CHANCE Program receive individualized clinical treatment primarily centered around Trauma-Focused Care, Cognitive Behavioral Treatment and motivational interviewing.

Any child in the community who has been a victim of CSEC can receive services from The CHANCE Program, even if they are not in a Specialized Therapeutic Foster Home.

Citrus Health Network provides prospective foster parents with required trainings for licensing, and additional trainings for specialized therapeutic foster care for CSEC victims.

Psychoeducational group therapy is provided to both children and caregivers as part of a 16 week curriculum.

Services provided by The CHANCE Program follow the child to provide continuity of care across different settings, providers, and levels of care.

Each child in The CHANCE Program is assigned:
1. An Individual Therapist
2. A Family Therapist
3. A Targeted Case Manager
4. A Life Coach
5. Certified Behavioral Analyst services are provided when applicable.

How CAN YOU HELP?

Become a Foster Parent!

1. Complete the Citrus Health Network Registration Form
2. Attend the Initial Foster Parent Orientation
3. Proceed with the Full Application and Training Process

Specialized Therapeutic Foster Homes for CSEC Victims:
Children live with foster families who have been specifically trained to care for children who have been victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Specialized Therapeutic Foster Homes for CSEC require more training for foster parents, and provide more support for children and caregivers.

The CHANCE Program is a pilot program developed by Citrus Health Network through a partnership with the Florida Department of Children and Families and Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, with research by the University of South Florida.

Open Your Home and Your Heart... Become a Foster Parent!