



State of Florida  
Department of Children and Families

Rick Scott  
Governor

Mike Carroll  
Interim Secretary

---

**DATE:** November 3, 2014

**TO:** Community-Based Care Lead Agencies

**THROUGH:** Pete Digre, Deputy Secretary  
Janice Thomas, Assistant Secretary for Programs

**FROM:** Traci Leavine, Director of Child Welfare Practice

**SUBJECT:** Clarification - FSFN Reporting Category for Payment of Placement and Services for Human Trafficking Victims

---

**PURPOSE:** This memorandum is to provide clarification to Community-Based Care Lead Agencies (CBCs) for appropriately recording expenditures from Specific Appropriation 342 by the 2014 Florida Legislature.

**BACKGROUND:** The 2014 Florida Legislature appropriated \$3 million in recurring funds to CBCs for costs associated with placement and services for sexually exploited children. The proviso language for the appropriation states:

From the funds in Specific Appropriation 342, \$3,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund is provided to serve the needs of children who are victims of sexual exploitation and have been adjudicated dependent or are the subject of an open investigation due to allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Funds shall be provided to community-based care lead agencies for costs associated with placement and services for sexually exploited children as identified through the screening assessment described in House Bill 7141 or similar legislation, or through other means determined appropriate by the department until such screening assessment is developed. The department shall determine the areas of greatest need and develop an allocation methodology based on these findings. A report outlining the findings, the allocation methodology, how the funds were disbursed, including how many children served, shall be presented to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2015.

To appropriately record expenditures from this appropriation, a new Other Cost Accumulator (OCA) has been created: **CBC Sexually Exploited Children (SEC00)**.

1317 Winewood Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

The Office of Revenue Management in the CFO Group at DCF maintains the table in FSN that associates the OCA to each Reporting Category.

The Reporting Category to capture direct payments for the treatment and/or placement of a child who has been the victim or suspected victim of commercial sexual exploitation has been created: **Human Trafficking Placement and/or Services**.

Eligible services include the following:

- Victim-witness counseling
- Family counseling
- Behavioral health care
- Treatment and intervention for sexual assault
- Education tailored to the child's individual needs, including remedial education if necessary
- Life skills training
- Mentoring by a survivor of sexual exploitation, if available and appropriate for the child
- Substance abuse screening and, when necessary, access to treatment
- Planning services for the successful transition of each child back to the community
- Activities structured in a manner that provides sexually exploited children with a full schedule.

\*Note: A child may receive the services above and still reside within the community or within his/her family home. Services are not limited to out-of-home care.

**CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE PLACEMENTS:** Section 409.1678(2), F.S., requires the Department to certify "safe houses" and "safe foster homes" to provide "a safe, separate, and therapeutic environment tailored to the needs of sexually exploited children who have endured significant trauma...A residential facility accepting state funds appropriated to provide services to sexually exploited children or child victims of sex trafficking must be certified by the department as a safe house or a safe foster home."

The Legislature granted the Department rulemaking authority to develop criteria for safe house and safe foster home certification, and the rule drafting has begun. The Department expects to initiate the formal rule promulgation process with a Notice of Rule Development this month and circulation of a draft for input from CBCs, service providers and other stakeholders.

The Department also has rulemaking authority to develop a screening assessment to identify sexually exploited children. The proviso language for the appropriation enables

funds from the Specific Appropriation to be used for children identified “through other means as determined appropriate by the department until such screening assessment is developed.”

Until the rules applicable to human trafficking victims are finalized, funds from the specific appropriation to be recorded in the OCA *CBC Sexually Exploited Children (SEC00)*, Reporting Category *Human Trafficking Placement and/or Services* may be used to support any appropriate placement and services for a child who has been the victim or suspected victim of commercial sexual exploitation. Because the criteria for safe house and safe foster home certification have not yet been promulgated by rule, this includes placements that are not yet deemed to be “safe foster homes” or “safe houses.”

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Please share this information with staff members for use of the appropriate Reporting Category and Services Types to record payments for placement and/or services to child victims of human trafficking.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** CBC questions regarding the information contained in this memo should first be addressed through the DCF contract manager. If you have questions about the FSFN Reporting Category, please contact Barney Ray at [barney\\_ray@dcf.state.fl.us](mailto:barney_ray@dcf.state.fl.us) or (850) 717-4700. Policy questions about the placement and services of human trafficking victims may be submitted to Kimberly Grabert at [kimberly\\_grabert@dcf.state.fl.us](mailto:kimberly_grabert@dcf.state.fl.us) or (407) 317-7960.

cc: JoShonda Guerrier, Director of Child Welfare Strategic Projects  
Kellie Sweat Darnell, Director of Child Welfare Operations  
Barney Ray, Lead Agency Fiscal Accountability  
DCF Regional Managing Directors  
DCF Regional Family and Community Services Directors  
CBC Contract Managers  
Center for Child Welfare, University of South Florida