

Did you know?

- **The SEEN program at the Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County has served over 1,800 high-risk and exploited youth since it was established in 2004.**
- **Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is a form of child sexual abuse. Exploited youth should be treated as victims – not as offenders or delinquents.**
- **CSEC can take many different forms, including street prostitution, pornography, stripping, erotic/nude massage, phone sex lines, escort services, private parties, gang-based prostitution, interfamilial pimping, and forms of internet-based exploitation.**
- **CSEC is not a choice.**
- **Youth are resilient. With coordinated resources and support, youth who experience commercial sexual exploitation can recover and rebuild their lives.**

SEEN offers trainings for professionals and community organizations.

For more information about SEEN or to make a referral, please contact:

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CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER
of suffolk county

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www.suffolkcac.org

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**SUPPORT TO END
EXPLOITATION NOW
(SEEN)**



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Healing Starts Here

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is when a child or youth under age 18 is involved in a sexual act in exchange for money, food, shelter, drugs, or anything of value. CSEC is a form of child trafficking. It is a serious and prevalent issue that affects youth, families, and communities in Massachusetts.

Youth who are exploited may not understand that what they are experiencing is abuse, or may be afraid to come forward and ask for help. It is critical that all of us recognize the signs of exploitation and know how to connect youth to supportive resources and a comprehensive intervention.



Support to End Exploitation Now

(SEEN) is a groundbreaking program that provides a coordinated, multidisciplinary response for at-risk and sexually exploited youth. SEEN partners with over 40 agencies spanning law enforcement, child welfare, medical and mental health providers, and community-based organizations. Together, we ensure at-risk and exploited youth are recognized and connected to the services that can help them heal and be safe.

SEEN aims to:

- Empower victims to leave their exploiter and regain control of their lives
- Ensure victims' safety
- Ensure victims' access to resources and services
- Enforce offender accountability
- Address the larger social issues affecting at-risk children through policy and education

Visit the CAC at: www.suffolkcac.org

The SEEN Program:

- Serves children and youth under age 18
- Receives referrals for at-risk and exploited youth in Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop
- Tailors the team response and services to each youth's individual needs
- Offers services at no cost to families
- Provides transportation assistance to services at the Children's Advocacy Center of Suffolk County at no cost to families

"The team is here to help, to help you feel more comfortable, and to pay attention to what you want and need."

- SEEN Youth Advisory Group member

The SEEN Team Approach

SEEN creates a safety net to reduce risk and ensure that each youth has the benefit of a coordinated team of support. SEEN facilitates communication among multidisciplinary team (MDT) members to engage youth and families and to connect providers across systems.

Upon receiving a referral, SEEN:

- Involves youth in the MDT and makes sure their voices are heard
- Assesses safety risks
- Identifies safe placement options
- Connects youth to expert medical and mental health resources
- Coordinates investigations with law enforcement when a youth is being harmed
- Coordinates forensic interviews
- Connects youth to specialized mentors, life coaches, and interpersonal supports that promote healthy relationships, prevention education, and healing
- Works with MDTs and families to recover missing/runaway youth