

**LOCAL LAW 41 of 2016:
2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

**NEW YORK CITY ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

A. INTRODUCTION

Local Law 41 of 2016 requires an annual report to the Speaker of the City Council, documenting the number of youth in contact with DYCD and ACS “who are referred as, self-report as, or who the department (DYCD) or ACS later determines to be sexually exploited children, disaggregated by age, gender and whether the children had contact with either DYCD or ACS or both agencies”. The law also requires DYCD and ACS to provide a “description of the services provided by the department and ACS to meet the needs of youth who are or have been sexually exploited.” Lastly, the law requires DYCD and ACS to document their methods for collecting data regarding this population.

The New York City (NYC) Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) and Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) are jointly submitting the fourth annual report on Local Law 41. This report covers Calendar Year 2018 (“2018”) and contains the following information as required:

- A. The number of youth in contact with the department’s (DYCD’s) runaway and homeless youth services or ACS who are referred as, self-report as, or who the department (DYCD) or ACS later determine to be sexually exploited*
- B. Data disaggregated by age, utilizing the following ranges:
 - a. under 12 years old;*
 - b. 12-15 years old;*
 - c. 16-18 years old; and*
 - d. over 18 years old;*and disaggregated by gender, and by whether such children had contact with the department or ACS.*
- C. The number of sexually exploited children identified as having received services from DYCD and ACS.*
- D. A description of services provided by DYCD and ACS to meet the needs of youth who are or have been sexually exploited children including but not limited to the number of beds designated for such children and the types of mental health and health services provided to such children.*
- E. The methods DYCD and ACS utilized to collect data regarding the number of sexually exploited children.*

DATA SUMMARY

Table 1. Youth “referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited” served by ACS and DYCD in 2018:	
Safe Harbour Providers	1,828
DYCD Runaway and Homeless Youth Services	787
ACS Prevention Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-Advocate Prevention Cases - 92• Advocate (ADVPO) Cases - 46	138 ^{i, ii}
ACS Placement Services	72
Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) Confirmed Victims of Human Trafficking	14 ⁱⁱⁱ
Total Exploited or at Risk for Exploitation Youth Served in 2018:	2,839

In 2018, ACS, DYCD and the Safe Harbour providers served a total of 2,839 youth referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited.

It is important to note that the actual determination as to whether some youth are at-risk for exploitation, or have been exploited is significantly challenging. Many youth that are considered at-risk for exploitation may have actually been trafficked, but chose not to disclose that information, or even outright deny exploitation, despite a proliferation of indicators. Therefore, the data in this report captures both exploited youth and youth determined to be at-risk for exploitation and these categories cannot be disaggregated. It should also be noted that some youth may have been counted multiple times in street outreach. There is no means to determine whether or how frequently this occurred.

Provider Breakdown:

Safe Harbour Providers Served 1,874 and OTDA Confirmed 14 Exploited Youth or Youth At-Risk for Exploitation:

- 208 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation received group services from GEMS.^{iv}
- 17 youth received individual case services from GEMS.^v

- 63 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation received services from the Safe Horizon Counselors who specialize in working with commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) at ACS' Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center.^{vi}
- 1,117 youth who identified as exploited, or at-risk for exploitation received services from Safe Horizon's Streetwork Outreach Team.^{vii}
- 16 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation completed the Summer Youth Employment Program with the Henry Street Settlement.^{viii}
- 210 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation received services at The Door.
- 17 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation received services at Hetrick Martin Institute.
- 52 youth who were exploited or at-risk of exploitation received services at the Ali Forney Center.
- The NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) confirmed 14 youth as sexually exploited.
- 104 sexually exploited youth, or youth at-risk for exploitation were identified through ACS' Child Trafficking Mailbox.
- 24 sexually exploited youth were identified through ACS' Child Trafficking Database (CTDB).

DYCD Served 787 Exploited and/or At-Risk for Exploitation Youth Through Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Programs:

- 356 youth received Crisis Services Programs.
- 99 youth received services from Transitional Independent Living Programs (TILS).
- 332 youth received services at Drop In Centers.
- 213 youth served by DYCD shared that they also receive some form of service from ACS.
- 227 males; 472 females; 35 transgender males, 53 transgender females.
- 2 children ages 12 to 15; 167 children ages 16 to 18; 618 youth over age 18.

ACS Foster Care Placement and Prevention Services Served 164 Exploited and/or At-Risk for Exploitation Youth:

- Foster Care Placement: Served 72 Sexually Exploited Youth at the Jewish Child Care Association's (JCCA) Gateways Program. Gateways worked with a total of 72 girls in 2018, of which 4 cases opened in 2018 and 68 girls had prior placement history.

- **Prevention:** Served 92 Sexually Exploited and/or Sexually Abused Youth at the Mt. Sinai-St. Luke’s New Beginnings prevention program (New Beginnings). New Beginnings, which accepts referrals for children age 12 and up, works with sexually abused and/or sex trafficked youth and their families. New Beginnings worked with a total of 61 cases in 2018, 4 of which were new cases and 57 cases carried over from 2017. The 61 cases contained a total of 158 children (subject child and siblings), including 66 children under 12 years of age. Since the program serves subject children age 12 and older, it is likely these are siblings of the subject children, not subject children themselves. Therefore, the 66 children under age 12 have not been included in the total for New Beginnings.

Table 2. Delineation of Data by Required Local Law 41 Categories: Total = 2,839		
By Age:	Under 12 years old:	5
	12 to 15 years old:	256
	16 to 18 years old:	652
	Over 18 years old:	1,830
	Age unknown ^{ix}	96
By Gender:	Male:	622
	Female:	1,603
	Transgender Female:	492
	Transgender Male	59
	Gender Non-Conforming	10
	Gender Undisclosed ^x	53
By Contact With DYCD or ACS:		
ACS only		292
DYCD only		574
Both ACS and DYCD		556
Unknown		1,417

B. DATA CAPTURE METHODOLOGY

In 2018, ACS obtained demographic data of young people served by New York State Safe Harbour-funded programs from the ACS and DYCD Safe Harbour providers. In addition, ACS obtained data through its Child Trafficking Mailbox, which served as a vehicle for ACS and provider agency staff to send notifications of trafficked children, ask questions, request resources and receive case practice guidance. The Child Trafficking

Mailbox is monitored by six professionals^{xi} within or affiliated with the ACS Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy, who have extensive experience in child welfare and law enforcement. In 2018, the mailbox received more than 1,314 emails, which identified a total of 104 children who were newly identified as trafficked, or at-risk of trafficking, and also provided support in reference to 105 children who had previously been identified as trafficked or at-risk of trafficking.

Screening Tools

In 2018, ACS continued to implement the NYS Office of Children and Families (OCFS) Administrative Directive, 15-OCFS-ADM-16: Requirements to Identify, Document, Report and Provide Services to Child Sex Trafficking Victims (September 1, 2015), with its mandated screening and reporting tools:

- a. Rapid Indicator Tool to Identify Children Who May Be Sex Trafficking Victims or At-Risk of Being a Sex Trafficking Victim
- b. Child Sex Trafficking Indicators Tool
- c. Law Enforcement Report of a Child Sex Trafficking Victim

It is highly likely that the mandated OCFS screening process, based upon the requirements of 2014's federal legislation, The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, which required screening of every child within the child welfare system for potential sex trafficking and timely reporting to law enforcement of any child determined to be sex trafficked, resulted in greater awareness of children being identified and served. Additionally, The NYS Office of Children and Family Services' (OCFS) Safe Harbour Program continued to require the use of a standard Excel spreadsheet for data capture, which helps gather more complete and uniform statistics from providers than in prior years.

Staff and providers face challenges with using paper screening tools to report and document data about the children and youth, as paper tools cannot aggregate data, nor provide a longitudinal history of the evolution of a child's entry into trafficking. The NYS CONNECTIONS database was enhanced in 2016 to include Sex Trafficking screens, into which staff could record the results of the screening tools and insert the Law

Enforcement Report contact information, however the actual screening tools were not captured in CONNECTIONS. To address these challenges, ACS' Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy, ACS' Office of Information Technology and a contracted Microsoft development team worked together to produce the first Child Trafficking Database (CTDB), which launched as a pilot on February 15, 2017 and continued in use during 2018.

The CTDB, currently in Phase I, allows assigned staff to complete the mandated OCFS sex trafficking screening tools electronically, thereby alleviating the use of paper screening tools. It allows staff to view child trafficking screening histories of children on their caseload, input screenings and view caseload demographics relevant to screenings assigned. The CTDB also permits every screening to be recorded and saved in the system for future access by a worker assigned to a child (and only when a worker is assigned to a child), and for administrative research and reporting needs, as required by Federal and State legislation.

For CTDB Phase II (in the planning stage for development during Calendar Year 2019), the CTDB will be enhanced to include an expanded services entry section for all youth identified as trafficked, which will allow the longitudinal capture of service provision information. Phase II will also provide automatic report generation functionality, to provide data as required by the City Council and OCFS, and on a wide variety of specific indicators relevant to understanding child trafficking in NYC's child welfare system. This project will therefore permit large scale indicator identification, tracking, data collection and aggregation of all youth identified as trafficked, or at-risk for trafficking through ACS' protective investigations and within the foster care, prevention and detention systems. Phase II will also provide extended levels of administrative access and report generation ability for divisional and agency managers and executives.

Phase I facilitated the identification of youth that met the Federal Definition of Trafficking through the automatic generation of an email from the CTDB to a specially designated Mailbox, to which the staff of ACS' Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and

Policy (OCTPP) have access. OCTPP staff then followed up by contacting the screener to confirm whether the youth met the definition.

Using Phase I auto-generated email capability, OCTPP's research ascertained that twenty-four (24) children identified by screeners through CTDB electronic sex trafficking screenings met the Federal Definition of Trafficking during 2018.

A detailed description of the CTDB is included in Appendix C.

Based upon the data collected from our providers, ACS submits the following observations:

- Obtaining all the figures required by Local Law 41 from vulnerable youth can be challenging. For example, providers such as Streetwork, which conducts momentary outreach with many youth at one time, may be unable to obtain complete information from their participants. In other instances, asking youth information concerning their involvement with ACS may not foster rapport or may trigger painful feelings.
- In addition, it can be difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain whether youth were counted more than once, or if information provided in a later month related to a new or existing client, especially concerning street outreach and group work at the Children's Center and the two secure detention facilities. This is due to the anonymity involved in street outreach and drop in centers. ACS is working to enhance data collection whenever possible.
- Most importantly, youth do not always disclose their experiences. Therefore, many youth who are considered at-risk for trafficking may have actually been trafficked but choose not to disclose that information. There are a variety of reasons as to why a youth may not disclose. These reasons can include, but are not limited to:
 - Traumatic reaction due to thinking about the victimization endured
 - Fear of threats or retribution by the trafficker
 - Fear of being taken from familiar people or places
 - Embarrassed by, and ashamed of the exploitation and the abuse

- Cultural norms that may make talking about exploitive experiences difficult for children, and even more so, traumatic sexual experiences
- Developmental delays that make it difficult to conceptualize what has actually occurred
- Victims often do not recognize they are in an abusive relationship and do not identify as trafficked. They truly believe their exploiter loves them and become “trauma bonded”^{xiii} to the exploiter. This makes it difficult for them to disclose. Many victims who leave their exploiter return. Some never disclose or leave at all.

Table 3. Data Delineation by Agency and Indicator:

An expanded view of this table is located in Appendix B.

NYC Administration for Children's Services																
2018 NYC Safe Harbour Data: Sexually Exploited Children and Children At-Risk of Sexual Exploitation																
as identified and reported by ACS, DYCD and Safe Harbour Providers																
Safe Harbour Provider	Total Youth	Cis M	Cis F	Trans F	Trans M	No G Discl	GNC	<12	12-15	16-18	>18	Age unk	ACS only	DYCD only	ACS+DYCD	Unk
Child Trafficking Mailbox	104	11	93	0	0	0	0	3	39	55	7	0	104	0	0	0
Child Trafficking Database	24	0	23	1	0	0	0	1	12	11	0	0	24	0	0	0
Streetwork Street Outreach	1117	234	441	423	19	0	0	0	0	63	1027	27	0	0	39	1078
Children's Center Counselors	63	4	57	1	1	0	0	0	31	29	3	0	0	0	63	0
GEMS Groups at Facilities	208	0	208	0	0	0	0	0	66	116	2	24	0	0	208	0
GEMS Individual Cases	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	1	0	0	17	0
DYCD RHY Programs	787	227	472	53	35	0	0	0	2	167	618	0	0	574	213	0
Ali Forney Center	52	13	9	13	4	9	4	0	0	10	42	0	0	0	0	52
Hetrick Martin Institute	17	3	11	1	0	0	2	0	3	3	11	0	0	0	0	17
The Door	210	99	107	0	0	0	4	1	6	117	86	0	0	0	0	210
Summer Youth Employment	16	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	6	0	0	0	16	0
OTDA Confirmations	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	14
Gateways Program (Placement)	72	0	72	0	0	0	0	0	19	26	27	0	72	0	0	0
New Beginnings (Preventive)	92	21	71	0	0	0	0	0	65	26	1	0	92	0	0	0
Preventive Advocate Cases	46	0	2	0	0	44	0	0	0	2	0	44	0	0	0	46
Totals:	2839	622	1603	492	59	53	10	5	256	652	1830	96	292	574	556	1417
Section Totals:	2839				2,839					2,839				2,839		

D. SERVICE PROVISION FOR SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH
1. DYCD Contracted Programs and Services to Meet the Needs of Sexually Exploited Children

The central responsibility of DYCD is to administer city, state, and federal funds to community-based organizations that serve New York City's youth and families. DYCD funds a range of programs including immigration, after-school, literacy, jobs and internships, parenting, and runaway and homeless youth programs and services. In 2018, DYCD provided \$836.7 million in funding to support these programs and services.

DYCD's funded Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) services are designed to protect young people, and whenever possible, encourage family reunification. In cases where reunification is not possible, these programs help youth progress from crisis and transitional care to independent living arrangements. Youth who participate in DYCD programs receive comprehensive services geared toward developing independent living skills, and strengthening their problem solving, decision making and communication abilities. This wide range of services includes food and clothing; medical services; substance abuse education; housing assistance; educational services; counseling; independent living skills training; employment counseling and assistance; recreation; legal assistance; and transportation assistance.

Services are provided to at-risk youth through crisis services programs (serving youth ages 16-20^{xiii}) which offer emergency, voluntary short-term residential programs. Youth in need of longer-term residential services may obtain a referral through the crisis services programs to DYCD-funded Transitional Independent Living (TIL) programs (serving youth ages 16-20^{xiv}), which assist youth in establishing independence through services such as educational and vocational programming, job placement, and counseling.

In 2006, DYCD revised its RHY model by establishing drop-in centers for each borough, enhanced street outreach services and specialized services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth, pregnant and parenting teens, and sexually exploited young people, as well as expanded shelter options. Funded services are described in greater detail below. DYCD's aggregate data is provided in Appendix A.

- a. **Crisis Services** – Crisis services programs offer emergency shelter for runaway and homeless youth age 16 to 20. These voluntary, short-term residential programs provide emergency shelter and crisis intervention services aimed at reuniting youth with their families. If family reunification is not possible, crisis services programs help arrange appropriate transitional and long-term placements. In 2018, DYCD had available a total of 246 crisis beds, including specialized services for LGBTQ youth
- b. **Drop-in Centers** – DYCD also provides emergency intervention services at seven drop-in centers across the five boroughs. Three drop-in centers are located in Manhattan and one each in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. Three of the Drop-in Centers are open six days a week and provide youth up to the age of 24^{xv} with essentials such as food, clothing, and immediate shelter as well as access to counseling, support, and referrals to relevant services. Since 2015 DYCD has funded the Ali Forney Center to provide 24-hour drop-in center services at its Harlem. In 2017, DYCD added Sheltering Arms to also provide 24-hour drop-in center services at its Queens location through non-Safe Harbor funding. In 2018, DYCD added Project Hospitality, SCO and Cardinal McCloskey to also provide 24-hour drop-in center services in Staten Island, Brooklyn and the Bronx respectively, through non-Safe Harbor funding.
- c. **Street Outreach Program** – DYCD also funds street outreach to reach at-risk youth where they are. Currently, the street outreach is conducted

by the contracted provider, Safe Horizon's Streetwork Project, with the use of vans. The Streetwork Project is a 30-year old confidential and voluntary program serving anyone who is 24 years old and under as well as homeless. The Street Outreach's vehicle-based outreach program focuses on locations where youth are known to congregate. By going directly to where at-risk youth are likely to congregate, such as subway stations and transportation hubs, the Street Outreach Program, with the assistance of street outreach workers, develops rapport with youth and provides contact by disseminating information about RHY services, providing food, clothing and other resources; making referrals to other service providers; and transporting youth back to their homes or relatives, to crisis services programs, or to other safe locations.

- d. **Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Programs** – DYCD contracts with providers to offer a total of 360 Transitional Independent Living beds. In addition to the services that are offered to all youth in the RHY continuum, those who are specifically identified as sexually exploited and in need of specialized services can be referred to the nationally recognized Girls Educational and Mentoring Services' (GEMS) Transitional Independent Living program, when appropriate. The GEMS TIL program specializes in services specifically for young women who have experienced sexual exploitation. Placement in the GEMS program is not always possible, as it is limited to eight DYCD-funded beds. However, young people residing in any of the DYCD funded programs will receive ongoing case management and counseling to address issues associated with exploitation. As each young person's experience is different, the service providers make referrals, as appropriate, to outside services. Program staff take care to engage youth in services when the youth is ready to address this sensitive issue.

2. New York State Safe Harbour-Funded Programs to Meet the Needs of Sexually Exploited Children

In 2018, New York State's Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) provided \$88,900 in funding to New York City (NYC), so that NYC could continue to develop and implement a child welfare response to sex trafficking. This was a significant reduction (238%) from the \$374,000 in funding received in 2017. In order to sustain the NYC Safe Harbour Program and continue equitable services to trafficked and at-risk youth, ACS self-funded the \$300,000 deficit. By doing so, ACS continued the ability to reach young people who are at risk of, or who are victims of sexual exploitation. The Safe Harbour grantee programs provided services to engage and educate exploited youth and assist with risk reduction through the use of internships, counseling groups, and outreach efforts, and through the provision of basic needs and safe sex items. A summary of the services provided by each agency follows:

a. ACS' Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy (OCTPP)

In 2015 ACS launched the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention & Policy (OCTPP), which works to raise awareness of trafficking and helps to identify appropriate services available to help youth at-risk and victims of commercial sexual exploitation and their families. In December 2017 ACS moved OCTPP from the ACS Investigations Unit to the Division of Family Permanency Services' Office of Older Youth Services (OYS), to enhance linkage and communication with the foster care agencies, who often help identify trafficked youth via screening and casework. One example of the benefits of the move of OCTPP to OYS is that OCTPP is now leveraging resources by working closely and in coordination with another OYS program that works with children and staff in residential foster care programs, the Intensive Preventive Aftercare Services for Child Welfare (IPAS-CW) Unit. OCTPP and IPAS-CW are now working together to increase outreach and communication with trafficked youth and their case planners in residential programs and to provide on-site trainings to planners on how to use the Child

Trafficking Database to screen youth. We have also enhanced coordination with another OYS program—the Missing Children’s Outreach Unit (MCOU), which works with foster care agencies who report AWOL youth—in order to help mitigate the risks of trafficking by locating youth who have left their placements. OCTPP coordinates policies and procedures across NYC’s child welfare agencies, manages the NYC Safe Harbour Program, provides consultation on cases, produces trainings and events, analyzes data, provides trafficking prevention group work, and maintains four e-mailboxes for communication on a variety of topics (cases, database, training, tattoo removal referrals) with staff and external professionals.

In 2018, OCTPP developed “Movin’ On”: The NYC Child Tattoo Eradication Project and Network to assist trafficking victims and former gang members in positively moving forward with their lives through the provision of trauma informed tattoo removal and the provision of relevant support. Additional information on “Movin’ On” is available in section E (e).

b. The Ali Forney Center

The Ali Forney Center (AFC) specializes in providing street outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, job assistance, and social services for at-risk and homeless LGBTQ youth. AFC received a total of \$20,000 to be used between July and December 2018. This funding provided services and goods for 52 youth who were referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited (of which 21 self-identified as transgender or Gender Non-Conforming). AFC used this funding to purchase and distribute critical items for LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness, including safe sex items, clothes, and undergarments. Ali Forney Center also provided temporary paid internships to AFC clients who have been or are at risk of being sexually exploited. AFC offered three internship types: General Support, Outreach, and Culinary. AFC’s General Support Interns assisted at their drop-in center with administrative tasks. The Outreach Interns worked alongside the Outreach Specialists by assembling safe sex kits, providing street outreach, and attending community events to alert other youth of AFC services and safe sex practices. The Culinary Interns assisted the

Meal Coordinator in the kitchen. They had the opportunity to receive training to pass the New York Food Handler's License exam.

c. Hetrick-Martin Institute (HMI)

The Hetrick-Martin Institute (HMI) provides after-school programs, supportive programs, and internships for LGBTQ youth. HMI utilized \$20,000 in 2018 Safe Harbour funding to provide services and goods for 17 LGBTQ youth referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited by developing group work sessions developed specifically for transgender females, a population known to highly correlate with sexual exploitation. HMI also provided individual counseling sessions for the youth. The individual counseling sessions help meet young people where they are by providing support, resources, connection to job readiness, medical care, and other supportive services for youth who are sexually exploited and working in the sex industry. HMI prioritizes individual counseling in response to 2015 feedback from youth who stated they were uncomfortable participating in a closed group with other sexually exploited young people. Youth expressed concerns over privacy and discomfort while talking to peers about these issues and reported feeling more comfortable meeting with program staff individually.

d. The Door: A Center for Alternatives

The Door provides a wide range of services for New York City youth between the ages of 12 to 21, including after school programs, college advisement, mentoring, medical services, and legal services. The Door used Safe Harbour funding in 2018 to provide services for 210 youth referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited by funding a Crisis Counselor who meets with young people in emergency situations, and continuing their “Smart Hustle” open and closed groups. The open group focused on exploitation education and prevention. The closed group focused on support for young people engaged in commercial sex. A variety of supportive activities and workshops were sponsored, including art expression, resume writing, job search, self-defense, and how homelessness is used as a way to take advantage of people sexually.

e. Safe Horizon

Safe Horizon, a leading service provider in the field of commercial sexual exploitation, provided two areas of service through the Safe Harbour grant. Two Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSW) worked as Commercially Sexually Exploited Child (CSEC) Consultants at the Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center. The social workers, who are employed through Safe Horizon's Streetwork Project, screened and assessed youth for CSEC, assisted staff in identifying exploited youth, engaged with, and advocated for youth, and provided CSEC appropriate service recommendations and referrals. In addition to their work with exploited children and other vulnerable populations, the consultants provided safe sex awareness groups for all youth and technical support for staff. During 2018, the social workers served 63 youth referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited.

2018 Safe Harbour funding also enabled the continuation of street outreach to identify and support trafficked youth. Safe Horizon's Streetwork Project's Street Outreach Team provided the contact card of the CSEC Consultants, the contact card for the Outreach Team, safer sex items, and a variety of essentials, including snacks, water, hygiene items, hats, scarves, gloves and hand warmers to 1,117 homeless youth, and youth on the street referred as, self-reported as, or determined to be sexually exploited. Of the total 1,117 youth, 52 self-identified as trafficked. Since youth homelessness too often correlates with "survival sex", additional youth within the overall total served may have been trafficked. Many youth are repeat contacts for street outreach, and the Team has continued to build a strong relationship with them.

f. Girls Education and Mentoring Services (GEMS)

Girls Education Mentoring Services (GEMS) is a nationally recognized organization that works with sexually exploited young women and girls through intervention and outreach, direct supportive services, training, and technical assistance. GEMS used their 2018 Safe Harbour funds to work with a total of 208 girls at three ACS facilities: The Nicholas Scoppetta Children's Center, and

the Crossroads and Horizon Secure Detention Facilities. GEMS facilitated seventy-three (73) psycho-educational group outreach sessions at the three facilities:

- 22 groups at the Children’s Center
- 16 groups at Crossroads
- 7 groups at Horizon^{xvi}
- 28 mentoring groups in the community (Harlem).

GEMS also provided individual work with seventeen (17) girls at the three facilities.

GEMS’ Youth Outreach Team is comprised of trained staff, fellows, and interns who develop and maintain the successfully proven CSEC curriculum used by GEMS. Safe Harbour funding also helped cover costs for the Youth Outreach Team to travel to and from ACS facilities, as well as costs associated with program related supplies for Safe Harbour outreach efforts.

GEMS funding also covered the provision of training to ACS and contract agency staff, both directly and through one session of their nationally reputable 3-Day “Train the Trainer” course, as detailed in section E.

g. Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

ACS again partnered with DYCD to set aside slots in DYCD’s Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) specifically for sexually exploited and at-risk youth. In Calendar Year 2018, ACS allocated Safe Harbour funding for youth to participate in this valuable program during the summer months of 2018. ACS reached out to youth in prevention programs, foster care, and juvenile justice placements with the goal of providing a safe opportunity for employment experience and identification of educational pathways to support career and life goals. Sixteen (16) youth completed the program, each voluntarily working up to 25 hours per week.

ACS Contracted Prevention and Placement Programs to Meet the Needs of Sexually Exploited Children

In addition to services funded by the NYS Safe Harbour grant, ACS also contracts for specialized prevention and placement programs as part of its continuum of services for at-risk youth and victims of sexual exploitation.

a. **Prevention: Mt. Sinai-St. Luke's New Beginnings Program**

ACS contracts with Mt. Sinai-St. Luke's Roosevelt's New Beginnings program, which was designed to maintain youth ages 12–17 who are at-risk for sexual abuse and/or exploitation, or who are victims of sexual abuse and/or exploitation safely in their homes by providing intensive therapy to the youth and family members. The program also works with youth in foster care up to age 21, as well as with youth up to age 22 who have aged out of foster care.

In 2018, New Beginnings program worked with 61 families, 4 of which were new cases and 57 carried over from the prior year, with a total of 158 children (subject child and siblings). There were 66 children under 12 years old in 2018. Since the program serves subject children age 12 and older, it is likely these are siblings of the subject children, not subject children themselves. Therefore, the 66 children under age 12 have not been included in the data total for New Beginnings.

b. **Prevention Advocate Cases:**

The ACS Division of Prevention Services obtained redacted sex trafficking screening data for Advocates Prevention Only (ADVPO) cases from its contracted prevention agencies. ADVPO cases provide voluntarily requested services to prevention services-only clients (cases with no child in foster care or being referred to foster care and not under investigation or open indicated child protective services reports). ACS' contracted prevention agencies do not transmit a breakdown of data on ADVPO cases beyond a total number of children and their risk levels. Advocate case sex trafficking screenings are not captured within the CTDB, but are completed with paper templates. Data provided by the ADVPO agencies identified that of 2,893 screening completed, 46 children were determined

to be exploited or at risk for exploitation, with 44 of the 46 children determined to be at-risk of exploitation, and 2 children determined to have met the Federal Definition level of trafficking.

c. **Placement: The Jewish Child Care Association's Gateways Program**

The Jewish Child Care Association (JCCA) is a longstanding ACS contractor that provides foster home, residential, community, mental health and prevention services. Since 2011, ACS has contracted with JCCA for services provided at the Gateways Program, an intensive, specialized residential program for female trafficking victims ages 12 to 16. JCCA currently supports these young people by using the Sanctuary trauma-informed care model, as well as a four-phase system of treatment that involves assessment, individual and family therapy, and peer counseling. Gateways maintains 12 child welfare beds specifically for sexually exploited girls who want to leave "the life."

In 2018, Gateways accepted 4 new girls for placement, serving a total of 72 girls across 2018, who had been placed for at least one day during the year.

E. Community Support and Awareness Building

a. NYC Trafficking Convening

On November 7, 2018, ACS and the Manhattan District Attorney's Office held a convening entitled: A Roadmap for the Future: Key Strategies for Child Sex Trafficking Prevention and Intervention. The convening brought together almost one hundred high level representatives from federal, state and city government social services and public safety agencies, nonprofit child welfare organizations, community-based providers, advocates, trafficking survivors and local and national human trafficking experts. The Manhattan DA's Office and ACS organized the "Roadmap for the Future" to collectively identify promising practices, opportunities and gaps, and to strategize together on best practice prevention and intervention methodologies. The convening generated a list of key recommendations that ACS, the Manhattan DA's Office and other key partners are now working to prioritize and advance.

b. Launch of the ACS Trafficked Youth Web Pages

ACS launched Trafficked Youth pages on the agency's website in January of 2018, featuring four informational and resource filled pages on the following topics:

- Child Trafficking Awareness and Prevention at ACS (overview)
- Child Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Resources for Professionals
- Services for Youth
- What to Do and Who to Contact When You Encounter a Trafficked Child

c. First Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Resource Fair and Press Conference on "I am Little Red" Distribution.

In recognition of January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, ACS's Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy produced a series of six awareness events, including NYC's first Human Trafficking Awareness Resource Fair on January 12, 2018. Attended by over

300 ACS and contract agency staff, professionals from City, State, Federal and community agencies, and by community members, the Fair featured information and resources from 42 trafficking related programs from 37 agencies. The resource fair was kicked off with a press conference held by Commissioner David A. Hansell and Deputy Mayor Herminia Palacio to introduce the “I am Little Red” video to the media and highlight the strides ACS has made in its work to help exploited and at-risk children.

d. “I am Little Red”

In 2018, to strengthen its anti-trafficking prevention campaign and to encourage pro-active positive responses by youth, ACS distributed 300 copies of the “I am Little Red” trafficking awareness video (purchased in 2017), along with its Facilitator Guide and Training Guide to NYC child welfare agencies, including foster care and prevention services agencies, child protection, juvenile justice and other direct practice components within ACS, and to DYCD’s Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) providers. “I am Little Red” is a 10-minute animated film aimed at the children most at-risk for sex trafficking: foster care, runaway, LBGTQ, homeless, and adopted children. The film addresses the four tactics a “wolf” (trafficker/pimp) will typically use to lure a “Little Red” off her path, and discusses strategies to use to stay on the safe path. “I am Little Red” is not just a movie, but a tool to educate youth by helping youth develop awareness of the tactics used by exploiters, and letting them know what to do and who to contact if approached. ACS was the very first agency in the nation to purchase “I am Little Red”, making NYC providers and youth the first large-scale recipient of this valuable trafficking awareness tool.

e. Creation and Launch of “Movin’ On”: The NYC Child Tattoo Eradication Network and Project with Press Conference

Exploiter brandings such as tattoos inhibit emotional healing, affect physical safety and employment opportunities, and impede the ability to “move on” with life. For this reason, the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention

and Policy developed a network of doctors and tattoo artists to help youth remove or alter exploiter tattoos, along with a trauma-informed counseling component to provide the support needed for life changing decisions. This initiative promotes healthy cognitive, social-emotional and physical development of trafficked and gang -involved youth by providing free tattoo removal to help youth move on from negative and trauma-based experiences, to positive outcomes. It assists youth in developing a sense of independence, and helps strengthen their potential for legitimate work and healthy relationships.

f. Launch of Trafficking Prevention Group Work Initiative with Love 146's #Not a Number Curriculum

Love 146's "#Not a Number" is a multi-session trafficking preventive curriculum that equips at-risk youth to respond to threats of trafficking and provides support to parents and professionals. In March 2018, through Safe Harbour grant funding, ACS provided a session of #Not a Number Facilitation Certification Training to twenty-three (23) child welfare professionals from foster care, residential, prevention and juvenile justice settings. These professionals were specially selected by their leadership based on their clinical background and engagement skills to learn the curriculum with an eye towards providing trafficking prevention group work with youth.

g. Purchase of Trafficking Awareness Graphic Novels and Comic Books for Distribution to Youth in Residential Facilities

During 2018, ACS contracted with Freedom Ladder, Inc. to purchase 100 copies each of their Coercion and Seduction comic books which highlight trafficking recruiter techniques and numbers to contract in an easy to read, adolescent friendly format. ACS also purchased 50 copies each of volumes one and volume two of the "Abolitionista!" graphic novels, each of which share the story of youth who have been recruited into trafficking, towards developing greater awareness and pro-active responses by adolescent readers.

h. Trafficking Awareness Items Featuring the ACS Campaign Slogan:
“Children are NOT for Sale”

In 2018, ACS further enhanced its “Children are NOT for Sale” child trafficking awareness campaign through the development and distribution of a tri-fold brochure entitled: “Child Trafficking and What YOU Can Do”. The brochure provides a wealth of material, including definitions, vulnerable populations, red flags, who to contact and other valuable, NYC focused information and resources.

ACS also used the Safe Harbour grant to advance the campaign by purchasing for distribution:

- 2,000 bumper stickers and 2,000 training folders emblazoned with the slogan: “Children are NOT for Sale,” the ACS logo, and the phone and text numbers of the National Human Trafficking Hotline for distribution to professionals at trainings and at community events, to build awareness of child trafficking and provide a resource contact to assist in trafficking prevention and alleviation.
- 2,400 pens emblazoned with the slogan: “Children are NOT for Sale,” the ACS logo, and the phone and text numbers of the National Human Trafficking Hotline for distribution to professionals at trainings and at community events.

E. Using Training to Increase Awareness

One of the best ways to help trafficked and at-risk youth is to increase the ability of staff and other professionals to better identify exploitation, and thereby enhance the ability to engage with and provide appropriate services to this vulnerable population. ACS has been doing so through ongoing training efforts.

In 2018, ACS and its affiliates filled 2,800 trafficking awareness and skills related training seats, targeting a wide audience that included ACS, foster care, prevention and juvenile justice staff, plus other City agencies, State agencies and community and faith-based agencies. The Office of Child Trafficking Prevention

and Policy (OCTPP) worked diligently and continually to provide the highest quality of training, both directly, and through contract with Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS).

Of the 2,800 trained in 2018:

- 2,393 seats were filled through trainings directly provided by Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy staff.
- 212 seats were filled through contracted trainings with Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) with 69 of the seats filled at the Safe Harbour grant sponsored 3-Day Train the Trainer session.
- 195 seats were filled by trainings facilitated by prior graduates of the GEMS 3-day Train the Trainer course as sponsored by OCTPP through the previous Safe Harbor grants.

OCTPP had launched ACS's first standardized, full day Awareness and Skills based training in 2015 to assist staff and providers in better identifying, and thereby, better providing services to trafficked children. In 2016, OCTPP upgraded its agenda, featuring training on the red flags of human trafficking and all of the affiliated dynamics and components, screening and identifying children, skills to assist with engaging and interviewing trafficked children. In 2017, OCTPP moved to a higher level of training provision, including several "advanced" courses for professionals with clinical backgrounds, or for those who had already taken several of the basic courses. For 2018, OCTPP added specialized trainings on Attachment and Trauma Bonding, Immigration Issues and Trafficked Youth, Labor Trafficking, and LGBTQ Vulnerability to Trafficking. Through the Safe Harbour grant, OCTPP contracted with GEMS to provide five trainings on: Trauma Informed Care and Vicarious Trauma (two sessions), Understanding the Stages of Change Experienced by Trafficked Children (two sessions), and Engaging and Interviewing Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth. OCTPP also sponsored for the fourth year in a row, GEMS' 3-Day "Train the Trainer" session which provided sixty-nine (69) ACS, prevention, foster care, juvenile justice and other City, State, Federal and community and faith-based agencies an opportunity to develop internal training and technical support capacity.

Additionally, The Director of the Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy (OCTPP) who is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW-R) provided her original training on Attachment, Trauma Bonding and the Normalization and Glamorization of Exploitation at two major trafficking conferences: (1) Shared Hope International's Juvenile Sex Trafficking (JuST) Conference in San Diego California. The JuST is the nation's largest and most renowned annual juvenile sex trafficking conference; and at (2) JCCA's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Prevention, Policy and Clinical Practice conference. She also co-presented the keynote address at the First Annual Staten Island Human Trafficking Awareness Conference.

Across 2018, training attendees included staff from:

- Administration for Children's Services and its Contract Agencies
 - Division of Child Protection (DCP)
 - Division of Family Permanency Services (FPS)
 - Division of Prevention Services (DPS)
 - Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ)
 - Foster Care Agencies
 - Prevention Services Agencies
 - Juvenile Justice Service Provider Agencies
- **Other City Agencies**
 - New York Police City Department's (NYPD) Human Trafficking Unit
 - NYC Department of Education (DOE)
 - NYC Department of Youth and Community Development's (DYCD) Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Services
 - NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC)
 - NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
 - Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence (END GBV)
 - NYC Law Department (Law)

- **State and Federal Agencies**
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)
- **Community Based Agencies**
 - Covenant House
 - Garden of Hope
 - Not on My Watch!
 - Staten Island University Hospital
 - Sanctuary for Families

Conclusion

Over the past five years, through the Safe Harbour affiliation, ACS and DYCD have worked together to systemically recognize and address the needs of sexually exploited young people. The Safe Harbor Act and state resources have allowed us to strengthen our work in this area by enhancing existing services and developing increased specialized services for this population, training staff, and evaluating mechanisms to improve our efforts to identify and document sexually exploited youth.

For six years (2013 to 2018), NYC has been the recipient of Safe Harbour grant funding from NYS OCFS as follows:

Year	Funding
2013	\$622,220
2014	\$550,000
2015	\$550,000
2016	\$448,000
2017	\$374,000
2018	\$88,900

The OCFS Safe Harbour grant funding to New York City was drastically reduced by the State in 2018. ACS has asked the State to restore this critical funding as this reduction places key services and interventions at risk.

We greatly appreciate the Council's attention to this vulnerable population of children, and look forward to discussing how the Council can provide additional support for ongoing work to help the trafficked and sexually exploited children of NYC.

Appendix A: NYC DYCD 2018 Statistics

NYC DYCD RHY Programs - Total Youth Served in 2018												
Program	Total Youth	Cis M	Cis F	Trans M	Trans F	Age 12 to 15	Age 16 to 18	Over Age 18	ACS + DYCD	DYCD Only	MH Ref	MH Counsl
Crisis Beds	356	102	193	23	38	0	87	269	105	251	313	325
TILS	99	35	52	4	8	0	14	85	17	82	88	56
Drop In	332	90	227	8	7	2	66	264	91	241	53	78
Totals:	787	227	472	35	53	2	167	618	213	574	454	459

- 356 youth received Crisis Services Programs
- 99 youth received services from Transitional Independent Living Programs (TILS)
- 332 youth received services at Drop In Centers
- 454 youth received mental health referrals
- 459 youth received mental health counseling

Appendix B: Safe Harbour Providers 2018

NYC Administration for Children's Services																	
2018 NYC Safe Harbour Data: Sexually Exploited Children and Children At-Risk of Sexual Exploitation																	
	as Identified and reported by ACS, DYCD and Safe Harbour Providers																
SafeHarbour Provider	Total Youth	GS M	GS F	Trans F	Trans M	No G/D/Sci	GNC	<12	12-15	16-18	>18	Age unk	ACS only	DYCD only	ACS+DYCD	Unk	
Child Trafficking Mailbox	104	11	93	0	0	0	0	3	39	55	7	0	104	0	0	0	
Child Trafficking Database	24	0	23	1	0	0	0	1	12	11	0	0	24	0	0	0	
Streetwork Street Outreach	1117	234	441	423	19	0	0	0	0	63	1027	27	0	0	39	1078	
Children's Center Counselors	63	4	57	1	1	0	0	0	31	29	3	0	0	0	63	0	
GEMS Groups at Facilities	208	0	208	0	0	0	0	0	66	116	2	24	0	0	208	0	
GEMS Individual Cases	17	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	8	8	0	1	0	0	17	0	
DYCD RHY Programs	787	227	472	53	35	0	0	0	2	167	618	0	0	574	213	0	
All Fomey Center	52	13	9	13	4	9	4	0	0	10	42	0	0	0	0	52	
Hetrick Martin Institute	17	3	11	1	0	0	2	0	3	3	11	0	0	0	0	17	
The Door	210	99	107	0	0	0	4	1	6	117	86	0	0	0	0	210	
Summer Youth Employment	16	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	6	0	0	0	16	0	
OTDA Confirmations	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	14	
Gateways Program (Placement)	72	0	72	0	0	0	0	0	19	26	27	0	72	0	0	0	
New Beginnings (Preventive)	92	21	71	0	0	0	0	0	65	26	1	0	92	0	0	0	
Preventive Advocate Cases	46	0	2	0	0	44	0	0	0	2	0	44	0	0	0	46	
Totals:	2839	622	1603	492	59	53	10	5	256	652	1830	96	292	574	556	1417	
Section Totals:	2839	2,839										2,839	2,839				

Appendix C:

NYC Administration for Children's Services' Child Trafficking Database (CTDB)

Administered by the ACS Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy (OCTPP), the Child Trafficking Database (CTDB), platformed in Microsoft Dynamics, allows assigned staff to complete the two mandated OCFS sex trafficking screening tools, thereby alleviating the use of paper tools. All children under investigation, in the care of ACS contracted foster care agencies, and receiving services from prevention service agencies or juvenile detention providers are expected to be screened using the CTDB. Children in Advocate (ADVPO) cases are not screened in the CTDB. They are screened using paper tools.

The CTDB allows staff to view child trafficking screening histories of children on their caseload, input screenings and view caseload demographics relevant to screenings assigned. The CTDB permits every screening to be recorded and saved in the system for future access by a worker (and supervisor) assigned to a child (and only when a worker/supervisor is assigned to a child), and for administrative research and reporting needs, as required by Federal and State legislation.

The development of the CTDB had been divided into two phases: Phase I: Child Trafficking Screening Tool and Phase II: Demographics and Service Data and Reports. Phase I (launched on February 15, 2017) provides a mechanism for data input as per NYS Child Trafficking Screening mandates. In Phase II (development scheduled for 2019), the CTDB will be enhanced to include an expanded demographics and service provision entry section for all youth identified as trafficked, permitting the longitudinal capture of information. The CTDB will also have the capacity to generate quantitative data reports with automatic functionality in the format required by OCFS and provide extended levels of administrative access for divisional and agency managers and executives to view their areas of responsibility.

Trainings on how to use the CTDB are conducted regularly in a Train the Trainer format. An electronic mailbox, available at CTDB@acs.nyc.gov provides access to technical support. A CTDB Reference Guide provides text guidance for users, and CTDB Training Slides provide screen shots on how to navigate the database.

End Notes

ⁱ Mt. Sinai-St. Luke's New Beginnings Preventive Program accepts referrals for children age 12 and up who have been sexually abused and/or sex trafficked. New Beginnings worked with a total of 61 cases in 2018, 4 of which were new cases and 57 cases carried over from 2017, with a total of 158 children (subject child and siblings). There were 66 children under 12 years old in 2018. Since the program serves subject children age 12 and older, it is likely these are siblings of the subject children, not subject children themselves. Therefore the 66 children under age 12 have not been included in the total for New Beginnings.

ⁱⁱ OCTPP receives redacted sex trafficking screening data for Advocate (ADVPO) cases, which totaled 93 children determined to be at-risk of exploitation and 2 children determined to be exploited in Calendar Year 2018. For children deemed at-risk for trafficking, ACS' contracted prevention agencies do not transmit a breakdown of data on ADVPO cases beyond a total number of children and their risk levels. For children determined to be exploited, only age and gender are provided.

ⁱⁱⁱ As documented in 17-OCFS-INF-03: New York State Processes Related to Notifications of Victims of Human Trafficking (March 17, 2017), the NYS Anti-Trafficking Law (2007) requires the New York State (NYS) Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) and the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) to accept referrals of potential victims from local law enforcement agencies or local district attorneys' offices. In 2015, the ability to refer potential victims of human trafficking expanded to include established legal and social services provider. OTDA and DCJS are charged with confirming or denying referrals of victims made to their agencies to allow access to services. Additionally, OTDA manages the New York State Response to Human Trafficking Program (RHTP). DCJS, in consultation with OTDA, must determine whether to confirm the referred person as a human trafficking victim (HTV) under statutory and regulatory guidelines. Once confirmed, victims are directed to either the LDSS or the RHTP service provider network. OTDA confirmation is confidential, and OTDA will only provide the number of confirmed victims, their age and gender. Some of the victims may be duplicative of reporting by other providers, but this is impossible to actually ascertain due to the confidentiality requirement.

^{iv} GEMS provided psycho-educational groups, mentoring groups and individual counseling sessions at ACS' Children's Center and the Horizon and Crossroads Secure Detention Centers. These children are at the highest risk for exploitation, and often are trafficked, but do not disclose.

^v Some of the individual cases served by GEMS may have participated in a group provided by GEMS. Since identities are confidential, this cannot be definitively determined. Therefore some multiple counting may be possible.

^{vi} Many of the youth worked with by the CSEC Counselors at the ACS Children's Center received multiple and/or extended sessions. Some youth received individual sessions, and also participated in groups.

^{vii} Many youth are repeat contacts for street outreach and since youth rarely identify to Street Outreach workers, multiple counting is possible.

^{viii} In Calendar Year 2018, ACS allocated Safe Harbour funding for Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) slots specifically for sexually exploited and at-risk youth. Sixteen (16) youth completed the program, with 1,429.75 hours worked in total by all 13 youth.

^{ix} Forty-four (44) of the undisclosed ages stemmed from ADVPO cases, in which OCTPP receives redacted information that is limited to the total number of children and their risk levels for youth screened at-risk for trafficking. Age is provided only for youth who met the Federal Definition level of trafficking. Twenty-four (24) undisclosed ages resulted from GEMS' groups at the facilities, wherein group participation is voluntary, and disclosure is up to the youth, similar to GEMS' individual casework for

three (3) youth who did not choose to disclose their ages. One (1) age non-disclosure was from The Door, which does not require youth to disclose their ages. Twenty-seven non-disclosures resulted from Street Outreach, where youth are asked, but not required to provide their ages. Two (2) age non-disclosures resulted from emails to the Child Trafficking Mailbox, which responds with additional information inquiries, but does not always receive responses. Age disclosure is always encouraged, but never insisted upon so as not to negatively impact engagement with vulnerable youth.

^x Forty-four (44) of the youth with undisclosed gender identity stemmed from ADVPO cases, in which OCTPP receives redacted information that is limited to the total number of children and their risk levels for youth screened at-risk for trafficking. Gender is provided only for youth who met the Federal Definition level of trafficking. One (1) gender identity non-disclosure was from The Door, which does not require youth to disclose their gender identity. Nine (9) gender identity non-disclosures were from Ali Forney center, which does not require gender identity disclosure. Gender identity disclosure is always encouraged, but never insisted upon so as not to negatively impact engagement with vulnerable youth.

^{xi} The Child Trafficking Mailbox auto forwards emails to:

- Selina Higgins, Executive Director, OCTPP
- Shereene McDermott-Green, Supervisor, OCTPP
- Sabine Chery, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Older Youth Services
- Susan Morley, Senior Advisor for Investigations to the Commissioner
- James Ciccotelli, Operations Manager, ACS Investigative Consultation Program
- Peter Alexander, ACS Criminal Justice Coordinator

^{xii} Trauma bonding occurs due to an ongoing cycle of abuse during which intermittent punishment and reward develop a powerful emotional bond which is highly resistant to change. The lessons and punishments become more severe over time, and the victim's compliance increases to maintain the affection of the abuser.

^{xiii} DYCD crisis shelters provide services to youth ages 16 – 20.

^{xiv} DYCD Transitional Independent Living (TIL) programs provide services to youth ages 16 – 20.

^{xv} DYCD drop in centers serve young people ages 14 to 24.

^{xvi} GEMS only provided seven (7) groups at Horizon Juvenile Center in 2018, as the facility was closed for renovations related to Raise the Age from June 19, 2018 through September 30, 2018. Horizon re-opened on October 1st of 2018. During the time of closure, the secure detention population was consolidated at Crossroads Juvenile Center.