**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Policy SAMPLE**

**Purpose:**

* The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) refers to when a person buys, sells or trades sexual acts (including pictures or videos) of children and teens under the age of 18 in exchange for anything of value. This includes but is not limited to:
	+ Pornographic images of children: sexually explicit videos or photos of a child.
	+ Prostitution involving youth under age 18: selling a child for sex acts.
	+ Survival sex: sex in exchange for shelter, food, clothes, drugs or anything of value.
* Any child under 18 years of age involved in commercial sex is considered a victim of sex trafficking and has the right to protection and services under the law.
* Any child can be exploited, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.
* All children in the care of youth serving organizations must be protected from harm, including the potential of harm caused by an inappropriate response to the disclosure of trauma.
* Children who have been impacted by commercial sexual exploitation must receive appropriate care and follow-up to ensure their safety and healing.

**Procedures:**

* All direct service staff will be trained on understanding the basics of CSEC as part of orientation. Training will include an overview of the available resources for CSEC victims (see resources listed below).
* Prior to the start of Prevention Education Programming, clinical staff and other appropriate personnel will be notified that the group is taking place. Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure safety. Staff may choose to describe the groups as empowerment groups.
* If a youth discloses that he/she is a victim of CSEC, appropriate personnel will be notified **immediately**.
	+ If the exploiter is a parent, guardian, or caregiver, a report must be made to SCR at

1-877-NJ-ABUSE immediately.

* + If the exploiter is not a parent, guardian, or caregiver, the site should seek assistance through another appropriate channel. Options include:
		- Local Resources:
			* 1-877-652-7624 to access NJ Children’s System of Care (CSOC)
			* The NJ Human Trafficking Hotline 1-855-END-NJ-HT (NJ Law enforcement)
			* AVANZAR’s Human Trafficking Dream Free Program – 1-800-286-4184 (NJ Statewide Victim Services)
			* 911 (Emergency)
			* Add other options/hotlines/local resources as applicable
		- National Resources:
			* The National Human Trafficking Resource Center 1-888-373-7888 (Victim Centered National Hotline).
			* National Center for Missing and Exploited Children 1-800-THE-LOST (Report a cybercrime, online exploitation, trafficking, and or missing children).
	+ Steps will be taken to ensure the safety and recovery of the child.