

RECOMMENDATIONS
Parent-Initiated Treatment (PIT)
Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC)

1. We should not make signs of CSEC a stand-alone qualifier for PIT. Factors such as the child demonstrating acute symptoms that are endangering the themselves and/or others, family stability, as well as whether the child/youth also has a mental health or SUD diagnosis, should be taken into consideration when determining whether PIT or another approach would be the most appropriate intervention.

While signs of CSEC should not be the qualifying standard for a PIT admission, it should be an option if the youth is confirmed CSEC and is at-risk of danger to self or others.

Further, as options for admitting vis a vis a PIT are explored, it is essential to be mindful of payment mechanisms. The diagnosis/criteria for PIT admission need to allow for payment under the existing structure or a new payment structure would need to be established.

2. We should have a variety of service options available for CSEC, such as secure detox, receiving care (ala the work of the Safe Harbors group), psychiatric facilities, community based counseling and support services, LRA type programs, other.

Safe, secure, therapeutic programs need to be available in communities

3. It would be beneficial, however, not mandatory, to have receiving centers in very close proximity to, perhaps co-located with, hospitals that are E and T centers (as long as that would not inhibit an engaging and therapeutic response).

4. While there wasn't consensus around this, the majority of those involved in the discussion agreed that the expansion of who can file a PIT on behalf of a child/youth should be very limited but at least include kinship caregivers. It should not include law enforcement or receiving care providers.

The appointment of a guardian, if the youth does not have a parent or kinship caregiver available, should be explored. Additionally, attention needs to be paid to language and other barriers that might exist with respect to filing a PIT on behalf of a CSEC.

NOTE: Considerable work is underway through other organizations, coalitions, etc. It is not our intent to duplicate efforts but rather address the specific directive from the legislature per HB2779 to determine the viability of using the PIT process for the CSEC population.