



Human Trafficking of Children Annual Report

Florida Department of Children and Families
Office of Community Services
Oct. 1, 2025

Taylor N. Hatch
Secretary

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Executive Summary

In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024-25, the Florida Department of Children and Families (Department), advanced its comprehensive response to child human trafficking through data-driven practices, expanded regional coordination, and enhanced survivor-centered services. A total of 2,254 human trafficking allegations were accepted by the Florida Abuse Hotline, involving 1,601 children, with Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) accounting for over 90 percent of reports. The Department verified 596 cases, a 5 percent increase in the CSEC verification rate compared to the prior year, reflecting improvements in frontline training, early identification tools, and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Under the leadership of Governor DeSantis, through strong partnerships, legislative action, and survivor-guided programs, Florida continues to build a trauma-informed framework focused on prevention and support for youth affected by human trafficking.

As an example of this, the “Community Human Trafficking Identification Guide”, launched this year by the Department, is a trauma-informed screening and training tool designed for use not only by child welfare professionals, but also by educators, healthcare providers, law enforcement, and other community-based practitioners. By equipping a broader range of frontline professionals with standardized guidance for recognizing trafficking indicators, the guide strengthens early identification, improves reporting accuracy, and enhances cross-system coordination for at-risk youth.

While the number of licensed safe house beds temporarily declined due to provider transitions and facility updates, the Department and its partners responded with targeted investments to restore and expand capacity. This included the development of new facilities and a significant increase in Safe Therapeutic Foster Homes (STFHs), creating a more flexible and diversified placement network to meet youth needs across the state.

In alignment with Senate Bill (SB) 7012 (2025), the Department initiated a statewide, comprehensive study that will serve as a gap analysis of residential and non-residential CSEC services in collaboration with the Florida Institute for Child Welfare. The results of this analysis will inform future policy and funding strategies for addressing the needs of human trafficking survivors across Florida. The Department remains appreciative of the many partners, including those with lived experience, that continue to invest their time to inform, shape, and guide the strategies outlined in this report as well as future recommendations.

Background

Section 39.001(5), Florida Statutes (F.S.), establishes the following goals for the status and treatment of sexually exploited children in the dependency system:

- To ensure the safety of children;
- Provide for the treatment of such children as dependent children, rather than as delinquents in the criminal or juvenile justice system;

- Sever the bond between exploited children and traffickers, and reunite these children with their families or provide them with appropriate guardians; and
- Enable children to be willing and reliable witnesses in the prosecution of traffickers.

Purpose

This report provides information as required in section 39.524(3), F.S., as follows:

- Prevalence of child commercial sexual exploitation;
- The specialized services provided and placement of such children;
- The local service capacity assessed pursuant to section [409.1754](#), F.S.;
- The placement of children in safe houses and safe foster homes during the year, including the criteria used to determine the placement of children;
- The number of children who were evaluated for placement;
- The number of children who were placed based upon the evaluation;
- The number of children who were not placed;
- And the Department's response to the findings and recommendations made by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) in its annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children, as required by section [409.16791](#), F.S.

The activities described within this report occurred during SFY 2024-25, unless otherwise noted.

The Department tracked Human Trafficking allegations in two primary categories:

- Human Trafficking-Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child (CSEC): This maltreatment type is used for cases in which the allegations involve commercial sexual exploitation of a child (e.g., adult entertainment clubs, escort services, prostitution, etc.). Investigative types for this category include In-Home (Caregiver), Other, or Institutional. This distinction separates reports based on whether the alleged perpetrator is a parent, legal guardian, caregiver, unrelated adult, or appears to be an institution.
- Human Trafficking-Labor: This maltreatment type is used in cases in which the allegations involve issues associated with forced labor, slavery, or servitude that do not appear to be sexual in nature.

Florida strategically structured the maltreatments of Human Trafficking CSEC and Labor differently to acknowledge the unique nature of trafficking, avoid gaps in protection, and demonstrate a strong policy commitment that every exploited child in Florida, regardless of who is exploiting them, must be identified, reported, and connected to both services and law enforcement partners. Accordingly, these are the

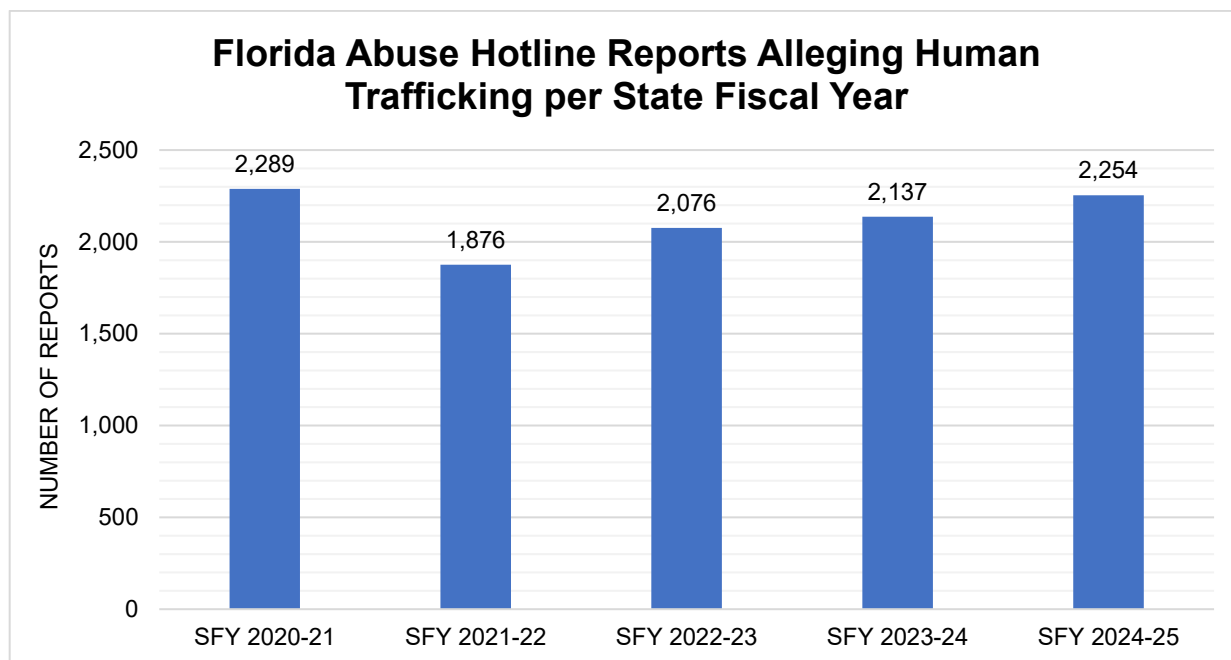
only maltreatments that do not require an alleged perpetrator to be a parent or caregiver, but rather any person suspected of exploiting the child.

Investigative Intakes

In SFY 2024-25, the total number of reports, initial and additional¹, accepted by the Florida Abuse Hotline (Hotline) alleging one of the human trafficking maltreatments (CSEC or labor trafficking) was 2,254, involving 1,601 children. Of these, 2,036 (90.3 percent) were coded as CSEC, while 218 (9.7 percent) were for Labor Trafficking.

Over the past four SFYs (SFY 2020-2021 to SFY 2024-25), reports of human trafficking allegations accepted by the Hotline have steadily increased, demonstrating improved awareness, reporting, and identification efforts statewide. In SFY 2024-25 alone, reports increased by 5.5 percent, a sharper rise than the 2.9 percent growth seen the previous year. Notably, labor trafficking reports rose from 172 in SFY 2023-24 to 218 in SFY 2024-25, representing a 26.7 percent increase.

The chart below depicts Hotline reports alleging human trafficking since SFY 2020-21.



Profiles of Reported Child Victims

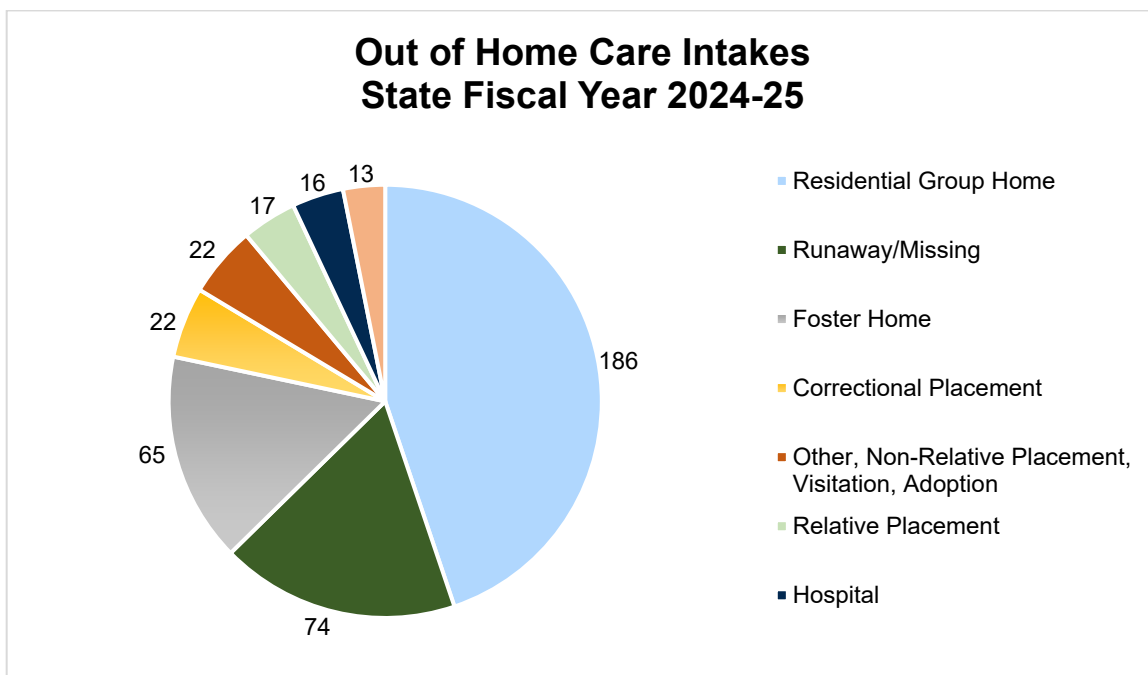
For SFY 2024-25, 80.2 percent involved female alleged victims, while 17.9 percent involved male alleged victims. This distribution closely mirrors the pattern observed in the previous year. Forty-two reports listed the gender as unknown. Of the total reports,

¹ Report identified by a Florida Abuse Hotline counselor which contains new information about one or more participants in an existing open investigation.

more than 81 percent involved children living at home with their parents or other caregivers, while 18.4 percent involved children in out-of-home care.

In response, the Department is broadening prevention and intervention strategies beyond the child welfare system by proactively working with schools, healthcare providers, faith-based partners, and community programs to equip families and frontline professionals with tools like the Community Human Trafficking Identification Guide to help recognize risk factors and connect at-risk youth to services before exploitation occurs.

The chart below illustrates the distribution of out-of-home placement settings at the time a human trafficking report was made.



Geographical Analysis

County-level investigative intake data indicates that Miami-Dade (241) and Broward (225) received the highest number of human trafficking intakes, followed by Hillsborough (174) and Orange (135). While these large urban counties drive the bulk of statewide volume, the per capita analysis (per 1,000) reveals that smaller counties face disproportionately high risks. Taylor (3.27), Hamilton (2.72), and Madison (2.31) rank as the highest per capita, despite their much smaller populations.

At the regional level, the Suncoast Region reported the largest share of cases (559), with the Central Region close behind (499). The Southeast Region reported 393 cases, followed by the Northeast Region with 313, the Northwest Region with 248, and the Southern Region with 242. Taken together, these figures show clear concentrations of

reports, with the Suncoast and Central Regions alone accounting for nearly half of all statewide reports in SFY 2024-25.

To better mitigate these regional concentrations, the Department has prioritized additional support and coordination in high-reporting areas. The Department's Regional Human Trafficking Coordinators partner with Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies, service providers, local task forces, Safe Homes, and Safe Therapeutic Foster Homes in every region to ensure timely placement and service access. In areas with higher volumes of reports, such as the Suncoast and Central Regions, these efforts are especially critical to meeting demand. Additionally, regional data is being used to guide statewide prevention strategies, expand service capacity, and inform the Department's ongoing placement and service gap analysis required under SB 7012 (2025).

The below table shows the number and type of human trafficking reports by Department region.

Region	Human Trafficking - CSEC	Human Trafficking - Labor	Total
Suncoast	478	81	559
Central	454	45	499
Southeast	369	24	393
Northeast	288	25	313
Northwest	229	19	248
Southern	218	24	242
Totals	2,036	218	2,254



Investigative Findings

In SFY 2024-25, the Florida Abuse Hotline accepted 2,254 reports of human trafficking. Of these, 596 cases (26.44 percent) were closed as verified. An additional 109 cases (4.8 percent) remained open without final findings at the time of report writing. Analysis of statewide reports shows that most verified cases involve CSEC and are predominantly female. Across all verified reports, there were 44 male victims and 308 female victims of CSEC, as well as 12 male and 13 female victims of labor trafficking.

For CSEC, the verification rate reached 27.6 percent, with 561 out of 2,036 reports closed as verified². This represents an increase of nearly 5 percentage points over the prior year's verification rate. This rise should not be interpreted solely as an increase in trafficking incidents, but rather as evidence of Florida's deliberate, coordinated, and survivor informed enhancements to its anti-trafficking system.

For labor trafficking, the Department verified cases increased from 17 in SFY 2023-24, to 35 in SFY 2024-25.³ This growth reflects Florida's improving capacity to identify a

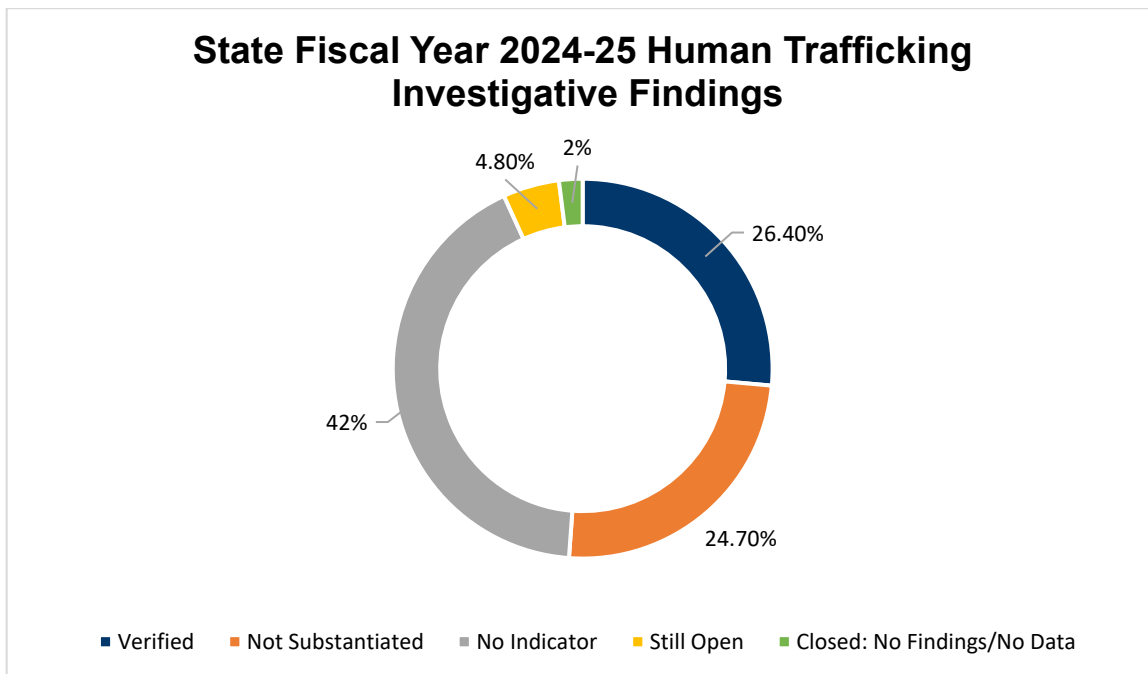
² To verify a maltreatment of human trafficking / CSEC, investigative information must show that a child under 18 was used for sexual purposes in exchange for something of value (or promise thereof).

³ To verify a maltreatment of human trafficking / Labor, investigative information must show that a child was recruited, harbored, transported, provided, or obtained for labor or services for the purpose of subjecting that child-to-child labor, involuntary servitude, peonage (being held against one's will to pay off a debt), debt bondage, or slavery.

form of trafficking that has historically been underreported and often confused with labor exploitation or workplace violations. By strengthening assessment practices and building awareness among frontline professionals, Florida is better able to distinguish labor trafficking from other forms of exploitation, ensuring that survivors receive appropriate protection and services.

The Department strengthened Florida's response this year through expanded state-wide leadership, targeted training, and cross agency collaboration. Broader community outreach has also improved early identification and system coordination, leading to more trafficking cases being recognized and verified, particularly among vulnerable youth.

The chart below depicts the outcomes of human trafficking investigations conducted in SFY 2024-25.



Safe Houses and Safe Foster Home Capacity and Placement

Specialized residential placements, including Safe Houses and Safe Foster Homes, currently operate in five of the six regions of the state. Although physically located in specific regions, they are designed to serve children statewide and can accept referrals from across Florida. This underscores both their accessibility and the continued opportunity to broaden the placement array to ensure children can be placed, when appropriate, in closer proximity to their home and school, as required by section 39.523, F.S.

The Department's Human Trafficking Prevention Unit staff provide consistent support to all specialized CSEC residential providers through regular onsite visits, quarterly meetings, and ongoing technical assistance. In addition, Department staff offer case management support and consultation to help providers address complex needs, strengthen service delivery, and ensure homes are equipped to provide safe and therapeutic care.

Safe Home and Safe Therapeutic Foster Home Capacity

The statewide safe home network demonstrates modest but steady growth, with 34 licensed beds currently available through five (5) licensed providers and planned expansions in both the Central and Suncoast Regions that will add up to 12 more beds. The overwhelming majority of these placements (88%) are in Tier 2 homes, ensuring higher levels of security and care. However, the fact that all safe houses currently serve only female children highlights an ongoing gap in services for male victims.

Safe Home Bed Capacity by Tier (2025)

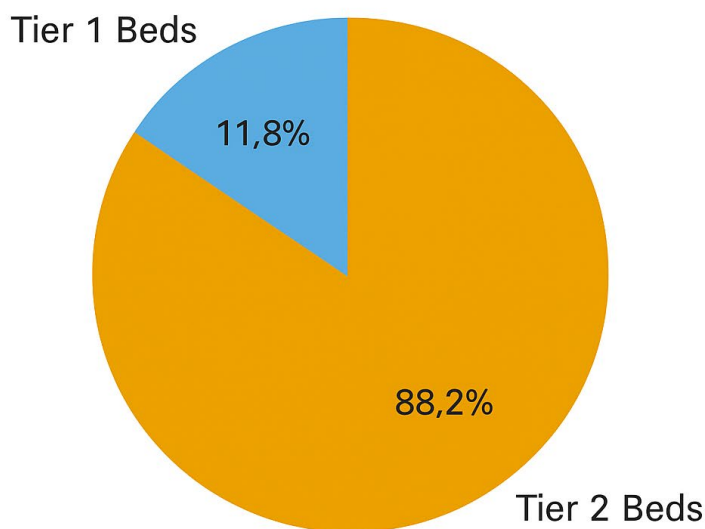


Figure 1: Safe Home Bed Capacity by Tier (2025)

Safe Therapeutic Foster Homes (STFHs) reflect a stronger footprint, with 28 homes operating across Florida, primarily managed by Devereux Florida (50 percent) and Citrus Health Network (39 percent). Legislative investments have accelerated growth of the CHANCE model, particularly in Pasco and Duval Counties, where multiple homes are newly licensed or in training. This expansion underscores Florida's commitment to trauma-informed, specialized placements for commercially sexually exploited children.

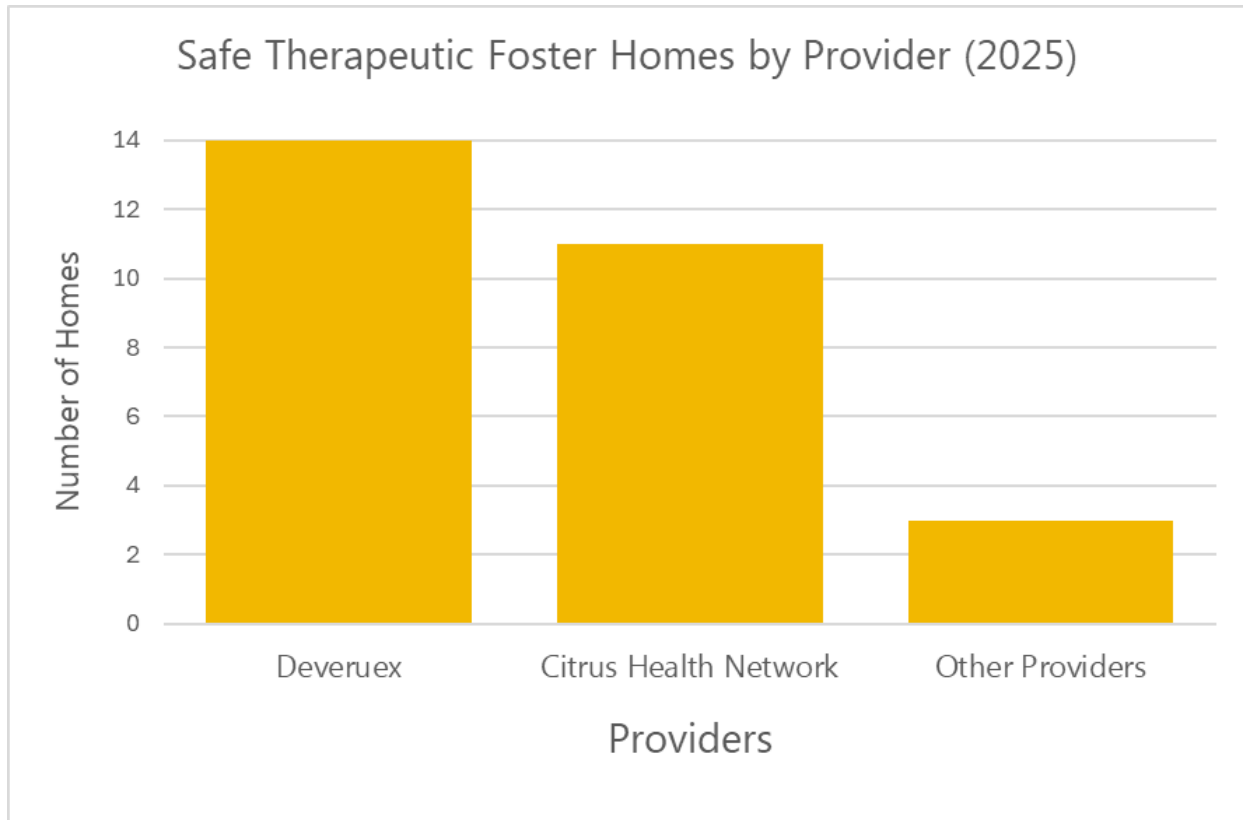


Figure 2: Safe Therapeutic Foster Homes by Provider (2025)

Overall, these developments illustrate a trend of increasing capacity and geographic distribution but also emphasize the need to diversify placement options and ensure access for both male and female youth requiring specialized care.

Safe Home Placement

When a child is identified as a victim of human trafficking, the Department and local CBC initiate an assessment process to determine the most suitable placement. This process typically involves a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) staffing and the administration of the Level of Care Placement Tool. The tool evaluates multiple factors that inform placement decisions, including the child's history of running away or foster care involvement, affiliation with gangs or traffickers, substance use, behavioral and psychiatric history, presence of supportive relationships, geographic considerations such as proximity to court, and the youth's readiness to engage in services.

Youth presenting with complex needs, such as co-occurring mental health or substance use disorders, may require placement in a higher-level setting like a residential treatment center or substance abuse facility. Others who benefit from stable family supports may be better served through intensive community-based wraparound services. For those who are prepared to engage in services but need a structured environment, placement in a safe house may be most appropriate.

SFY 2024-25, data reported by CBCs across the state shows that 399 youths were evaluated for placement in a safe house or a safe foster home. Of these, 120 children were recommended for such placement, and 45 (37.5 percent) were placed based on their evaluation. The Northwest Region reported the highest number of youths placed, with 17 entering a safe house or safe foster home. When compared to SFY 2023-24, this year's results reflect both an uptick in the total number of youths placed along with an increase in the placement rate, highlighting continued progress in connecting more children to safe and supportive environments.

Seventy-five youth recommended for placement were not placed in a safe house or safe foster home for a variety of circumstances and situational factors. For some youth, a safe house was not a recommended level of care, as they needed to be placed in a substance abuse treatment program, mental health facility, or were placed in the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) commitment programs. Twenty-one of those youths were not placed in a safe house due to their runaway status. There are cases where a youth may still be placed in a safe house or safe foster home after recovery from a runaway episode or upon discharge from a juvenile justice facility or higher-level mental health facility. Many of these youth are referred to specialized nonresidential services in the community to address their needs as a victim of CSEC.

There were 18 youth referred to a safe house or safe foster home who were unable to be placed. When a safe house or safe foster home bed is not available, youth may be placed in an at-risk home, regular foster care, or a youth shelter until an appropriate placement becomes available. In all cases, youth continue to receive comprehensive, CSEC-specific wraparound services designed to address their individual needs. Placement decisions are made based on the unique needs of each child and the current composition of residents within a safe house. The complexity and acuity of resident needs often limit the number of youths a home can appropriately serve at one time. In some cases, providers may intentionally limit the intake of new residents to allow time for existing youth to stabilize and for new youth to assimilate into the program, ensuring consistent staff engagement and therapeutic continuity.

Each safe house maintains its own intake and assessment protocols and retains discretion in determining whether a placement is appropriate. Youth who are not in the Department's custody, commonly referred to as "community youth", may be placed in safe houses if their individual circumstances warrant that level of care. Data suggests that approximately 30 percent of current safe house residents fall into this category. It is also important to recognize that not all verified victims require the intensive support provided by a safe house; some may thrive with home-based, community wraparound services, while others may need more intensive clinical placements such as residential treatment centers.

Importantly, placement in a safe house program is voluntary, and youth retain the right to consent to this level of care. During the year, 42 youth declined safe house or safe foster home placement, underscoring the Department's commitment to survivor-centered care and the importance of ensuring that a full continuum of services,

including community-based and therapeutic supports, is available to meet each child's unique needs.

Other Specialized Services (Non-Residential)

The State of Florida offers a range of community-based supports for victims of human trafficking. These services are an essential component of the continuum of specialized care available to youth who have experienced CSE. Community-based services are particularly appropriate for youth who have a stable and supportive living environment, do not wish to enter a safe house, or do not require the level of care provided by a safe foster home, safe house, or residential treatment center. Typically, these services include individualized therapy, specialized case management or advocacy, and other supports tailored to the unique needs of each youth.

When substance use is identified, addressing it often becomes the immediate priority to help stabilize the youth before introducing additional services. Youth with severe substance dependency or in need of detoxification are generally not appropriate for placement in a safe house, highlighting the importance of having substance abuse treatment providers who are trained to understand and support the CSEC population. The Department continues to identify and engage treatment programs serving substance-dependent youth that are willing to train staff on the specific needs and vulnerabilities of commercially sexually exploited children.

Expenditures for Human Trafficking

Through the leadership of Governor DeSantis and the Florida Legislature, \$3 million in recurring funds is appropriated annually through the General Appropriations Act to support youth who are victims of sexual exploitation and have been adjudicated dependent or are the subject of an open investigation for abuse, neglect, or exploitation. In SFY 2024-25, CBC Lead Agencies reported \$3,995,921.79 in expenditures for CSEC services. This represents an average annual investment of \$48,242 per child, demonstrating Florida's strong commitment, backed by dedicated state funding, to ensuring comprehensive care and recovery for exploited youth.

The Department's response to the findings and recommendations made by OPPAGA.

Section 39.524(3), F.S., requires DCF to respond to the findings and recommendations presented by OPPAGA in their annual study on commercial sexual exploitation of children. The following response addresses the specific findings and recommendations provided by OPPAGA.

OPPAGA Recommendations

- "To expand services for CSE victims, the Florida Department of Children and Families should continue efforts to increase safe house and safe foster home

placement options statewide; enhance residential treatment by recruiting additional behavioral qualified residential treatment programs; and expand the supply of service providers throughout the state, particularly those that specialize in serving human trafficking victims. These efforts include consulting with lead agencies, local service providers, and other community partners to better understand the underlying cause(s) of service gaps (e.g., substance abuse treatment options, educational support); identifying existing providers that may be able to expand services; exploring opportunities to partner with new providers; leveraging new funding opportunities; and considering telehealth or mobile service teams in areas with limited physical provider presence.”

- “To address low approval rates of applications for human trafficking relocation assistance and victim compensation, the Legislature could amend Ch. 960, Florida Statutes, to expressly include psychological or physical injury due to CSE in the definition of crime and to include minor CSE victims who suffered a psychological or physical injury in the definition of victim. The Legislature could also amend Ch. 960, Florida Statutes, to allow any local, state, or federal law enforcement official to act as a proper authority for human trafficking victims, regardless of jurisdiction. In addition, the Legislature could amend Ch. 960, Florida Statutes to include DCF as a proper authority for CSE reporting for individuals who were minors at the time the crime occurred.”

The Department supports the recommendations to expand safe house and safe foster home placements, recruit additional qualified residential treatment providers, and grow the statewide network of service providers for human trafficking victims. The Department is also committed to working with lead agencies and local partners to identify service gaps and explore strategies such as telehealth, mobile service delivery, and new funding opportunities.

In alignment with the directives outlined in SB 7012 (2025), the Department has partnered with the Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW) to conduct a comprehensive study and gap analysis of both residential and non-residential services for commercially sexually exploited youth. The findings will guide future policy and funding decisions and support data-informed, survivor-focused responses.

Additionally, the Department supports amending Chapter 960, F.S., to improve access to relocation assistance and victim compensation for CSE survivors. This includes clarifying the definition of “victim” to include minor CSE survivors with psychological or physical injuries and expanding the list of proper authorities to include law enforcement at all levels and the Department itself.

Annual Summary of Activities

Throughout SFY 2024-25, the Department continued to strengthen Florida’s response to human trafficking through targeted training, cross-agency collaboration, and survivor-informed programming. Building on the foundation laid in prior years, the Human Trafficking Program expanded to include six Regional Human Trafficking Coordinators,

ensuring each region has a dedicated point of contact to support case consultation, training, multidisciplinary staffing, and system coordination. In addition, a new Director of Human Trafficking Prevention was established this year to provide leadership and oversight of the entire unit, strengthening statewide direction and accountability. New statewide specialists were added to focus on data, training, and policy development, further professionalizing and streamlining the Department's anti-trafficking efforts.

The Department continues to explore innovative approaches to address and prevent human trafficking, with a focus on analyzing trafficking-related data to better understand emerging trends. This analysis informs the development of tools to aid in the identification, monitoring, and engagement of individuals impacted by trafficking, enabling more effective community support and anticipation of future needs. To strengthen collaboration and improve efficiency, the Department is transitioning communication and data exchanges, both internally and with partners to digital platforms, ensuring more accurate and timely data collection and reporting.

In January 2025, the Department released the "Community Human Trafficking Identification Guide" in partnership with the University of South Florida. This tool provides trauma-informed guidance for professionals and community members on identifying and reporting both commercial sexual exploitation and labor trafficking. It includes mandatory reporting guidance, links to training resources, and direct access to the DCF abuse hotline and website.

To strengthen early intervention, the Department launched the "Human Trafficking Identification Assessment (HTIA)" in February 2025. Designed for use in protective investigations involving youth ages 10 and older, the HTIA supports the early identification of trafficking risk. The Department conducted 10 HTIA training sessions, reaching over 730 participants, including Child Protective Investigators (CPIs), supervisors, and program administrators. The tool includes five core screening questions tied to risk indicators such as high-risk behavior, unstable living situations, prior abuse, and financial or medical vulnerabilities. Use of the HTIA is now required in all cases involving sexual abuse or substance misuse. Ongoing support is provided through webinars, refresher sessions, and technical assistance.

Training and outreach remained central to the Department's anti-trafficking strategy. Over the course of the fiscal year, it delivered and monitored 31 Human Trafficking Certification classes, totaling 186 training hours. As a result, 716 Department and CBC staff received their Human Trafficking Certification. In addition, the Department facilitated training for approximately 50 Independent Living Case Managers, helping equip staff who support youth aging out of foster care and moving toward self-sufficiency.

Community engagement efforts were robust, with the Department participating in 74 public awareness events and dedicating 383 hours to professional outreach and training. Audiences included law enforcement, healthcare providers, youth-serving professionals, and members of regional human trafficking task forces. These outreach efforts helped ensure that professionals across disciplines are equipped to recognize

and respond to human trafficking in their respective fields. Collaboration was a key driver of training success. The Department facilitated or co-facilitated an additional 383 hours of cross-agency human trafficking training alongside state and federal partners. Training partnerships included the Department of Health, DJJ, Department of Education, Department of Business and Professional Regulation, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Department of Homeland Security, and the Intercept Task Force.

These partnerships enhanced the quality and reach of training content, ensuring consistency and relevance across systems. In addition to general training, the Department contributed to several specialized initiatives and projects. In particular, it supported the development and virtual recording of the 46-hour Adult Safe Home Training curriculum and provided expert training for emergency responders through a partnership with the Florida Sheriffs Association. Customized trainings were also delivered to Hope Florida staff, emergency response teams, healthcare providers, and child welfare professionals statewide.

Throughout the year, Department staff were invited to present at several major conferences, including Crimes Against Kids, the Florida Child Protection Summit, National Foster Care Conference, Saint Thomas University Human Trafficking Academy, National Independent Living Conference, National L.E.A.D. Conference, and the Florida School Social Workers Conference. These engagements helped elevate Florida's practices on a national stage and reinforced the Department's role as a leader in anti-trafficking efforts.

The Department is especially proud to highlight its recent role in two major recovery operations that brought home missing and endangered children and youth across Florida. In June 2025, the Department partnered with more than 20 agencies during Operation Dragon Eye, a U.S. Marshals-led initiative in Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco Counties that successfully recovered 60 critically missing children. The Department worked alongside law enforcement, CBC Lead Agencies, and service providers to support recovery hubs in Tampa, coordinating transportation, safe placements, immediate mental health evaluations, and human trafficking investigations for youth exhibiting signs of exploitation. Staff played a critical role in trauma-informed stabilization and recovery in collaboration with partners across the region.

Soon after, the Department also participated in a multi-day recovery operation in Northeast Florida in partnership with the National Child Protection Task Force and more than 30 agencies. This effort led to the safe recovery of 25 missing and endangered youth, many of whom were flagged for further investigation due to trafficking or abuse concerns. Again, Department staff were instrumental in coordinating immediate response, including activating case reviews, engaging families, arranging clinical screenings, and ensuring appropriate shelter placements.

These operations serve as a powerful example of cross-system coordination in action. The Department's role across investigations, and service response ensures that recovered youth are met with compassion, dignity, and long-term safety planning.

In furtherance of Florida's commitment to ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable, and that law enforcement has the tools necessary to support the eradication of human trafficking, the Department provided \$900,000 in grant funding to assist state and local law enforcement agencies in improving the assessment and investigation of labor and sex trafficking, while strengthening efforts to investigate and prosecute cases involving the trafficking of minors. Funds were disbursed through a competitive grant opportunity with multiple awardees across the state implementing funded activities designed to strengthen anti-trafficking efforts.

These initiatives include the procurement of surveillance technology, forensic and investigative software, and trauma-informed interview tools; the provision of emergency assistance for victims; and the planning of proactive operations and specialized trainings. Collectively, these activities are enhancing investigative capacity, improving data and case management, and expanding victim support services. Through these investments and others, Florida continues to equip law enforcement agencies with the resources and training required to respond more effectively to human trafficking while maintaining a strong focus on compliance and accountability.

The progress made in SFY 2024-25 reflects Florida's ongoing investment in prevention, protection, and recovery, and sets the stage for continued innovation and partnership in the year ahead.