

## Referral Information:

All services provided at New Beginnings are free of charge and metrocards are provided to all participating clients.

New beginnings offers services to individuals & families living throughout the 5 boroughs of New York City.

For Direct Referrals, Please contact:

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Mount Sinai St. Luke's  
Hospital Center

Community Services for  
Children and Families

**New Beginnings**



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# Facts about Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSEC)

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is defined as a form of coercion or violence against someone under the age of 18 years which amounts to forced sexual conduct for compensation, financial or otherwise, and a contemporary form of slavery.

It is estimated that 250,00 children in the United States are at risk for being commercially sexually exploited each year.

The New York State Office of Children and family services estimates that New York City is home to more than 2,000 sexually exploited children under 18.

Over one million children run away from home each year to the United States. 1 in 3 will be recruited by a pimp within 48 hours of leaving home.

The average age for entry into prostitution for girls is 13 years.

95% of women involved in prostitution report experiencing sexual abuse as a child.

The New York State Safe Harbor Act, effective April 2010, recommends that a child under 18 years of age who has been commercially sexually exploited should receive services instead of being charged as a criminal. Possible services include safe houses, crisis intervention and community based services that are free of charge.

With support and appropriate services, sexually exploited children and their families can lead safe, secure and productive lives.

# Indicators of CSEC

There are a number of identifiers that can be observed by social service providers that can help you determine whether you are working with a client who is being commercially sexually exploited. If you determine that a child is exhibiting any of the following behaviors, further inquiry and/or intervention is recommended:

## Physical indicators:

- Unexplained bruises
- Cuts or marks
- Branding tattoos (neck, chest, arm)
- Appears to be much younger or older
- Frequent or multiple sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancies.

## Emotional indicators:

- Fear and anxiety
- Depression
- Tension
- Nervousness
- “Hyper-vigilance” or paranoid behavior
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Anger or rage

## Additional indicators:

- The teen expresses interest in or is in a relationship with adults or older men.
- the teen is involved in a controlling/dominating relationship.
- The teen uses terms as “daddy,” “the track” or “being in the life.”
- The teen is/has experiences with family problems including sexual abuse, domestic violence, child abuse and substance abuse.
- The teen has an explicit online profile
- The teen runs away, is secretive about their whereabouts and/or keeps late hours.
- The teen has unexplained expensive items and/or an excessive amount of money.
- The teen is having trouble re-adjusting to home life after an out-of-home placement.

# New Beginnings

## Who we are:

All program case planers are Licensed Master’s level clinicians with experience in specialized areas including child sexual abuse, CSEC, domestic violence and substance abuse.

Clinicians are trained in specialized treatment modalities including relational family therapy, trauma focused counseling, individual and group treatments and crisis intervention.

## What we do:

New beginnings offers the following services:

- Relational family therapy
- Parent & sibling groups
- Home & office visits
- Trauma informed treatment
- Crisis intervention, advocacy & referral
- Referral for mental health evaluation & treatment

## Criteria for services:

- Youth aged 12-17 years who have been sexually abuse, exploited, and/or commercially trafficked or who are at risk due to truancy, running away, sexual acting out, etc.
- The identified abuser must not be living with the client while s/he is receiving services.
- Parent/caretaker must be interested in receiving treatment.
- Youth in foster care up to age 21 years who have a discharge goal to return home within 6 months or have a goal of independent Living.