



## How can you be involved?

If you are a volunteer or professional working in the voluntary and community sector and are interested in your organisation increasing its awareness and skillbase in relation to CSE, please get in touch via the contact details on the back of this flyer.

Referrals for vulnerable young people who may benefit from our early intervention will be welcomed from those organisations undertaking this provision, as well as families in Hackney.

As part of this provision Barnardo's will help young people access additional support and services across the borough.

As a community we can work together to respond quickly, more effectively and **stop CSE before it starts.**



## Contact details

### Stop it Before it Starts

Barnardos  
The Hub Construction Skills Centre  
The Rosalind Green Hall  
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E1 3JX

Tel: 07534 287631

Email: [sbs@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:sbs@barnardos.org.uk)

[www.barnardos.org.uk/sbs-cse](http://www.barnardos.org.uk/sbs-cse)

**If you see a young person  
experiencing harm: Call 999**

**If you see something that concerns  
you: Call 101 and quote  
OPERATION MAKESAFE**

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**Barnardo's**

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## Stop it Before it Starts Hackney

- CSE Early intervention with boys and young men
- Up-skilling the voluntary and community sector



## What is CSE?

Sexual exploitation is a form of sexual abuse, in which a young person is manipulated, or forced into taking part in a sexual act. This could be as part of a seemingly consensual relationship, or in return for attention, affection, money, drugs, alcohol or somewhere to stay.

As a professional or volunteer working with young people in a variety of settings, or as a parent yourself, you could have an important role to play in protecting children from exploitation.

## What Makes Young People Vulnerable to CSE?

We now know that there are a number of factors that can increase a young person's vulnerability to sexual exploitation. These include:

- disrupted family life
- experience of abuse in all its forms
- learning disabilities
- bereavement or loss
- being lesbian, gay, bisexual or questioning
- having temporary leave to remain or being in the UK illegally
- boys and girls whose gender identity differs from the sex they were given at birth or who question their gender identity
- if the child may have been trafficked
- homelessness, including living in a temporary accommodation
- being a young carer
- living in residential care
- lacking friends from the same age group
- having low self-esteem or self-confidence.

## Stop it Before it Starts

Barnardo's are pioneering an early intervention CSE service in Hackney funded by the City Bridge Trust. Historically unseen and even unheard, young people experiencing CSE are rarely recognised until it is too late. This two-pronged innovative service aims to:

- **Raise awareness of CSE** within the Voluntary and Community Sector and increase their capacity to recognise the signs of CSE and how to respond and safeguard all young people. This in-depth 4-6 week programme will be adapted for each organisation's own individual needs and own specialism. This provision will include up-skilling staff and volunteers who work with children, young people and families.
- **Stop it before it starts**, by providing a new CSE early intervention service for boys and young men in Hackney. This specialist intervention will provide these young people with the skills and know-how to understand CSE and in particular how their vulnerabilities could lead to exploitation by others.



## More than just words: Boys are telling us. We have to start listening

Historically sexually exploited boys and young men have been neither seen nor heard. Vulnerable boys and young men are often isolated, lack the ability to verbally communicate their experience and come up against discriminatory social attitudes in terms of gender and homophobia. As a society we simply lack understanding as to how young males communicate their difficulty without words. They are telling us, we just have to learn how to listen.

With the help of both Young Hackney and the voluntary and community sector, we will identify and offer early intervention to vulnerable males and their families, help connect them with other services and opportunities, and empower and build resilience both individually and across the community.

Together we can empower these young people and **Stop it Before it Starts**.