



PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) Annual Report 2017

Introduction

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was signed into Federal law in 2003 by President George W. Bush and was created to address the problem of sexual misconduct in all confinement facilities. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice released national PREA standards to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities. The Act requires all federal, state, and local corrections agencies to have a zero-tolerance policy regarding prison rape in prisons, jails, police lock-ups, and community confinement facilities.

Community Resources for Justice, Inc. (CRJ) has a zero-tolerance policy relative to sexual misconduct. All facilities/programs comply with federal and respective state laws as they pertain to PREA, sexual violence and sexual misconduct.

The Corporate PREA Coordinator, Susan Jenness Phillips, continues to serve as the Senior Management staff that develops, implements, and oversees company efforts to comply with PREA standards in all of CRJ's adult criminal justice programs. The Program Directors have been designated to serve as their facility's PREA Liaison to coordinate each individual facility's efforts in its compliance with the PREA standards.

In compliance with PREA requirements, Community Resources for Justice, Inc. (CRJ) submits this 2017 Annual Report.

PREA Activities

During 2017, SQA monitored PREA activities at all 5 programs throughout the year. A new CRJ reentry center, Neil J. Houston House, opened in May 2017 in Pawtucket, RI and will be scheduled for its first PREA audit in mid-2018. This gives the program a year for PREA policies, processes and documentation to be established.

During 2017, CRJ's Standards and Quality Assurance Department (SQA), under the guidance of the PREA Coordinator, was responsible for:

1. conducting audits of case files for completion of:

- a. PREA Intake Orientation Checklists upon admissions
 - b. PREA Screening and Scoring forms within 72 hours
 - c. PREA safe discussions between residents and case managers at first case manager meeting and every meeting thereafter
2. observing PREA posting in all programs during Walk-Throughs of the 6 programs
 3. establishing a paperless documentation process for future PREA audits
 4. tracking PREA training throughout the year
 5. maintaining the PREA Incident Tracking Chart
 6. maintaining all documentation involved in allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment and the resulting investigation reports.

During 2017, there were no PREA audits at any of CRJs programs however, both Horizon House and Brooke House continued their focus on PREA with their PREA audits occurring in 2018. In late 2017, Horizon House scheduled the addition of three cameras in their facility to reduce two main areas of blind spots found by the PREA Coordinator and sustained by the PREA auditor in the audit report.

Also of note in 2017, the PREA Coordinator conducted an investigation for a sexual harassment allegation that included the current Program Director and five other CRJ staff. This was the first investigation conducted by the PREA Coordinator. The investigation resulted in an “unfounded” finding.

Annual PREA Data

Regarding incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in 2017, the results are as follows:

2017	Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse	Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment	Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse	Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment
Brooke House	0	0	0	0
Horizon House*	0	0	0	2
McGrath House*	0	0	0	0
Coolidge House*	0	0	0	5
Hampshire House*	0	0	0	1
Houston House*	0	0	0	0

* = BOP funded programs

2017	ALLEGATIONS	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED	ONGOING INVESTIGATION
Resident on Resident Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	0	0	0	0	0
Resident on Resident Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0
Staff on Resident Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	0
Staff on Resident Sexual Harassment	8	0	1	7	0
TOTALS	8	0	1	7	0

During the 2017 reporting period, there were eight allegations of sexual harassment (five at Coolidge House, two at Horizon House, and one at Hampshire House. One of the eight incidents resulted in an “unsubstantiated” finding and all of the seven other incidents resulted in “unfounded” findings. There were no specific causes determined for the high increase of allegations at Coolidge House and the increase in Horizon House during 2017 however, it appeared that staff who held residents more accountable than other staff were involved in most of these allegations.

Regarding external audits, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) conducted quarterly monitorings (external audits) at the five CRJ/BOP programs. Brooke House receives no external audits from its funders. There were no accreditation (external) audits conducted by the American Correctional Association (ACA) of any CRJ program in 2017.

During 2017, the PREA Coordinator determined that another CRJ staff was needed as a back up or replacement for the PREA Coordinator. Plans for the training of the staff are scheduled to start in early 2018.

Aggregate PREA Data

The combined PREA data for the years 2015-2017 is as follows:

2015 – 2017	Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse	Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment	Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse	Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment
Brooke House	0	0	0	0
Horizon House*	0	0	0	2
McGrath House*	0	0	0	0
Coolidge House*	0	0	0	5
Hampshire House*	0	0	0	1
Houston House*	0	0	0	0

* = BOP funded programs

2015 – 2017	ALLEGATIONS	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED	ONGOING INVESTIGATION
Resident on Resident Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	0	0	0	0	0
Resident on Resident Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0
Staff on Resident Sexual Abuse	1	0	0	1	0
Staff on Resident Sexual Harassment	8	0	1	7	0
TOTALS	9	0	1	8	0

The combined results reflect a huge increase in the number of sexual harassment allegations from 2016 to 2017. In all but one sexual harassment case, the findings were “unfounded” (the one exception was “unsubstantiated.”) In the combined three years, there was only one allegation of sexual abuse and eight incidents of sexual harassment. All allegations have been *Staff on Resident* incidents. From 2015- 2017, no incidents have occurred at three of the six (or 50%) community confinement programs (Brooke House, Houston House and McGrath House).

CRJ continues its PREA training for all staff and residents in the community confinement facilities to prevent sexual misconduct and to fully investigate and prosecute those involved in such conduct. The CRJ PREA Trainer conducted several PREA training for staff throughout the three-year period. She recently updated her training to include role-playing in PREA situations. Staff noted in their evaluations of the training that the role-playing was very valuable and useful to them in their positions.

The system to collect data on incidents of a sexual nature at each of CRJ’s community confinement facilities continues to provide PREA data. Each facility/program collects accurate, uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse or sexual harassment under its direct control using a standardized instrument and the Corporate PREA Coordinator aggregates that incident-based data annually. The data collection is now all electronic and located on a shared drive. The Program Director or designee enters the data monthly and the PREA Coordinator checks the database periodically to ensure the data is being entered. Since 2013, the aggregation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment data is required by CRJ Corporate policy.

Starting in early 2018 with Horizon House, all PREA audits will be paperless.

Each community confinement facility that CRJ operates continues to make great efforts to improve the prevention, detection, and response to incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.