

# **PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)**

## **Annual Report 2019**

### ***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 sexual assault/ sexual abuse 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 of its community-based residential reentry programs comply with federal and respective state laws as they pertain to PREA, sexual violence and sexual misconduct.

Heriberto Crespo, Assistant Director of Standards and Quality Assurance (SQA), as the Corporate PREA Coordinator works in tandem with Senior Management staff to develop, implement, and oversee company efforts to comply with PREA standards in all of CRJ's community-based residential reentry programs. The Program Directors are 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 2019 Annual Report.

### ***PREA Activities***

During 2019, CRJ's Standards and Quality Assurance Department (SQA) monitored PREA activities at all six community-based residential reentry programs throughout the year.

SQA, under the guidance of the PREA Coordinator, is 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 of admission
  - c. PREA safe discussions between residents and case managers at the first case management meeting and every meeting thereafter
2. Observing PREA posting in all programs during facility walk-throughs,
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 2019, two programs, Coolidge House in Boston, Massachusetts and Hampshire House, in Manchester, New Hampshire, completed their PREA audits (in April and June, respectively). They were audited by an independent, Department of Justice certified, PREA auditor, Jack Fitzgerald (the same auditor used to audit CRJ’s programs in 2015, 2016 and 2018). The results for both programs reflect compliance in all areas of the regulations. The PREA Audit reports for Coolidge and Hampshire Houses are posted on the CRJ webpage, along with previous audits reports for 2015, 2016 and 2018.

In 2019, CRJ reopened McGrath House, a reentry program in Boston for women; expanded Brooke House, a program in Boston that serves men; and launched the Western Massachusetts Foundation House, a new partnership with the Hampden County Sheriff’s Department to provide reentry support in Springfield. The growth and creation of these programs was the direct result of continued advocacy that succeeded in securing new funding for community based residential reentry services in the Massachusetts state budget. CRJ PREA data does not include reports from Western Massachusetts Foundation House. PREA monitoring and compliance for the Western Massachusetts Foundation House, by agreement, falls under the authority of the Hampden County Sheriff’s Department and not CRJ.

**Annual PREA Data**

**Allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, 2019**

<b>2019</b>	Allegations of <b>RESIDENT</b> on <b>RESIDENT</b> Sexual Abuse	Allegations of <b>RESIDENT</b> on <b>RESIDENT</b> Sexual Harassment	Allegations of <b>RESIDENT</b> on <b>STAFF</b> Sexual Abuse	Allegations of <b>STAFF</b> on <b>RESIDENT</b> Sexual Abuse	Allegations of <b>STAFF</b> on <b>RESIDENT</b> Sexual Harassment
<b>Brooke</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>McGrath</b>	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Coolidge*</b>	0	1	0	3	0
<b>Hampshire*</b>	0	1	1	6	2
<b>Horizon*</b>	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Houston*</b>	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>

\* = BOP contracted programs

**Summary of Findings 2019**

<b>2019 Findings</b>	<b>ALLEGATIONS</b>	<b>SUBSTANTIATED</b>	<b>UNSUBSTANTIATED</b>	<b>UNFOUNDED</b>	<b>ONGOING INVESTIGATION</b>
<b>Resident on Resident Nonconsensual Sexual Acts</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Resident on Resident Sexual Harassment</b>	3	1	2	0	0
<b>Resident on Staff Nonconsensual Sexual Acts</b>	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Staff on Resident Sexual Abuse</b>	11	0	1	10	0
<b>Staff on Resident Sexual Harassment</b>	3	0	1	2	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>

During the 2019 reporting period, there were three allegations of sexual harassment by residents on residents (one at Coolidge House, one at Houston House and one at Hampshire House). Two allegations (Coolidge and Hampshire) resulted in an unsubstantiated finding. The third allegation (Houston House) resulted in a substantiated finding after an investigation conducted by the Program Director. The resident was sanctioned and returned to higher custody. An investigation report with the findings was submitted to all relevant PREA-related stakeholders.

There were eleven allegations of sexual abuse by staff on residents during the 2019 reporting period. Three allegations were reported at Coolidge House; one at McGrath House and seven at Hampshire House. Ten out of the eleven allegations were determined to be unfounded. There was one allegation at Coolidge House determined to be unsubstantiated. The Program Directors at Coolidge and Hampshire conducted the investigations and the report with the findings were submitted to all relevant PREA-related stakeholders.

Also during the 2019 reporting period, there were three allegations of sexual harassment by staff on residents. Two allegations were reported at Hampshire House; and one at Horizon House. Investigations were conducted by the respective directors of each program and the allegations were not substantiated. The reports with the findings were submitted to all relevant PREA-related stakeholders.

In addition, there was one allegation of sexual abuse by a resident towards a staff (Hampshire House). The Program Director and Director of Re-entry Operations conducted an investigation and it was determined to be unsubstantiated. An investigation report with the findings was submitted to all relevant PREA-related stakeholders.

Regarding external audits, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) conducted quarterly monitoring visits (external audits) at the four CRJ/BOP programs. Brooke House, McGrath and Foundation House received no external audits from its funders. There were no accreditation (external) audits conducted by the American Correctional Association (ACA) of any CRJ program in 2019.

**Aggregate PREA Data**

**Combined PREA data for the years 2015-2019**

<b>2015- 2019 N=30</b>	<b>Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>Allegations of RESIDENT on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment</b>	<b>Allegations of RESIDENT on STAFF Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>Allegations of STAFF on RESIDENT Sexual Harassment</b>
<b>Brooke</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>McGrath</b>	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Coolidge*</b>	0	1	0	3	5
<b>Hampshire*</b>	0	1	1	6	3
<b>Horizon*</b>	0	0	0	1	5
<b>Houston*</b>	0	1	0	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>

\* = BOP contracted programs

**Summary of Findings 2015-2019**

<b>2015-2019 N=30</b>	<b>TOTAL ALLEGATIONS</b>	<b>SUBSTANTIATED</b>	<b>UNSUBSTANTIATED</b>	<b>UNFOUNDED</b>	<b>ONGOING INVESTIGATION</b>
<b>Resident on Resident Nonconsensual Sexual Acts</b>	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Resident on Resident Sexual Harassment</b>	3	1	2	0	0
<b>Resident on Staff Sexual Abuse</b>	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Staff on Resident Sexual Abuse</b>	14	0	2	12	0
<b>Staff on Resident Sexual Harassment</b>	12	1	3	8	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>

CRJ continues its PREA training for all staff and residents in the community-based residential reentry programs to prevent sexual misconduct and to fully investigate and prosecute those involved in such conduct.

The system to collect data on incidents of a sexual nature at each of CRJ’s community-based residential reentry programs continues to provide PREA data. Each 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 as needed. The data collection is now all electronic and located on a confidential, shared drive. The Program Director or designee enters the data monthly and the PREA Coordinator checks the database periodically to ensure the data is entered.

Since 2015, the aggregation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment data is required by CRJ Corporate policy.

Each community-based residential reentry program that CRJ operates continues to make great efforts to improve the prevention, detection, and response to incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.