

September 10, 2019

SUBJECT: PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) INTERIM REPORT

August 1, 2018 through August 1, 2019

Policy and Procedure:

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requires Chesapeake Juvenile Services (CJS) to collect accurate uniform data for every allegation of sexual abuse using a standardized instrument and set of definitions. The data collected is aggregated at least annually answering all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence conducted by the Department of Justice.

Chesapeake Juvenile Services maintains, reviews, and collects data as needed from all available incident-based documents: including reports, investigation files, and sexual abuse incident reviews to create an annual report. The annual report provides previous calendar year data to the Department of Justice upon request.

PREA also requires CJS review and collect data to see if corrective actions are necessary to improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training, including:

1. Identifying problem areas;
2. Taking corrective action on an ongoing basis; and
3. Preparing an annual report of its finding and corrective actions for implementation.

The report will include a comparison of current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years and will provide an assessment of the facility's progress in addressing sexual abuse. The report is approved by the Director of Human Services, with input from CJS Superintendent, and made available to the public on the facility's website.

There may be redacted information when publication of the annual report presents a clear specific threat to the safety and security of CJS residents and staff, but will indicate the nature of the material redacted.

The facility will maintain sexual abuse data collected pursuant to 115.387 for at least 10 years after the date of its initial collection unless Federal, State, or local law requires otherwise.

CJS Findings:

- The August 2018-August 2019 reporting period of PREA, CJS had zero founded incidents, but 1 alleged allegation of sexual harassment that was unsubstantiated. The facility takes all allegations, regardless of whether or not it meets PREA Standards, seriously.
- In the past 12 months, CJS had 31 new hires. New hire PREA training was conducted for each new staff.
- CJS staff was trained extensively on child abuse and neglect reporting, maintaining professional relationships/boundaries, behavior management, code of ethics and focused on additional PREA training hours for all staff.
- The facility took every opportunity to conduct teachable moments, model appropriate reactions and behaviors, and conduct unannounced rounds ensuring PREA compliance.
- CJS has a long history and reputation of having a standing zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment.
- The facility operates several strong programs that exceed standards in preventing, detecting, and responding to abuse of any kind.
- The Chesapeake City Public School Teachers contribute to making our program successful, risk-free of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and offers a continuous environment for learning.

Conclusion:

CJS will continue to enhance program deliverables, ensuring responsiveness to its diverse population of residents and to their individual needs.

Please do not hesitate to contact Almondo Waters, CJS PREA Coordinator, at 757-382-6364 or by email at awaters@cityofchesapeake.net should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Almondo A. Waters

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA (http://ojp.gov/programs/pdfs/prea_final_rule.pdf))

Contact the PREA Coordinator (757) 382-6364

- The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (Public Law No. 108-79) <http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/government/City-Departments/Departments/human-services/Chesapeake-Juvenile-Services.htm> was signed into law in 2003 to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape on Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resource recommendation, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.”
- The purpose of this policy is to ensure residents are free from sexual assault and sexual harassment and to outline the agency’s approach to preventing, detecting, and responding to such conduct.
- Meeting the objectives of PREA is a priority of CJS. CJS has a zero tolerance policy towards any incident involving the sexual misconduct of a resident.
- Each resident receives PREA education (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRqJd_tZh1A&feature=youtu.be) during the admission process, in-depth education within 7 days of admission, and ongoing refresher education throughout the residents’ incarceration.
- Reporting sexual assault or sexual harassment can be done in several ways by the resident, a family member, a staff member, or by a third party <http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/government/City-Departments/Departments/human-services/Chesapeake-Juvenile-Services.htm>.
- **REPORT IT:**
 -to a staff member
 -to the PREA Coordinator
 -complete a grievance form
 -write a letter of complaint

.....CALL:

- YWCA 24 hour Crisis Hotline: (757) 226-9922, or
 - Child Abuse & neglect Hotline: (800) 552-7096, or
 - Local Social Services Division: (757) 382-2000
 - Chesapeake Police Department (non-emergency): (757) 382-6161
 - CJS Administration offices/PREA Coordinator: (757) 382-6364
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- CJS will ensure that all allegations of sexual abuse are referred for investigation to the Chesapeake Police Department/Special Victims Unit (CPD/SVU) which has the legal authority to conduct criminal investigations. Sexual abuse allegations will also be referred to the Child Protective Services (CPS) Unit of the City of Chesapeake Human Services Department.
 - Reports of sexual harassment will be investigated by the CJS PREA investigator and PREA coordinator. Both individuals are full-time employees on staff with CJS and have had the PREA Investigating Sexual Abuse in a Confinement setting training from the National Institute of Corrections, which qualifies them to investigate reports of sexual harassment.
 - CJS has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chesapeake Police Department (CPD) to perform the investigation and a written Memorandum of Understanding with the Chesapeake Integrated Behavioral Healthcare (CIBH) that will offer support services as requested or as necessary. The CPD solicits the services of the Chesapeake Forensic Specialist, who are the sexual assault nurse examiners (SANE). SANEs will conduct the initial examinations for the CPD.
 - CJS has taken extraordinary measures to build an excellent working relationship with the CPD, YWCA, CPS, and CIBH and with the SANEs (forensic nurses) for the purpose of creating a safe, humane, and secure environment for all residents that is free of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.