Prison Rape Elimination Act

Crossroads for Youth 2016 Annual Report

The Agency has established a zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse and sexual harassment. In the event that a youth alleges sexual harassment or abuse that involves potentially criminal behavior, the Agency will contact Children’s Protective Services, the Bureau of Child and Adult Licensing, the Department of Human Services, and the local police department. Anyone may report the sexual abuse of a youth placed at the Agency by calling Children’s Protective Services at 855-444-3911.

Sexual Abuse Allegation Year-to-Year Comparison Data

Calendar Year 2016

- Youth in residence on 12/31/16: 11
- Allegations of youth-on-youth nonconsensual sexual acts: 0
- Allegations of youth-on-youth abusive sexual contacts: 2
  - Allegations substantiated: 0
  - Allegations unsubstantiated: 2
- Allegations of youth-on-youth sexual harassment: 0
- Allegations of staff-on-youth sexual harassment: 0
- Allegations of staff-on-youth sexual abuse: 0

Calendar Year 2015

- Youth in residence on 12/31/15: 44
- Allegations of youth-on-youth nonconsensual sexual acts: 0
- Allegations of youth-on-youth abusive sexual contacts: 1
  - Allegations substantiated: 0
  - Allegations unsubstantiated: 1
- Allegations of youth-on-youth sexual harassment: 1
  - Allegations substantiated: 0
  - Allegations unsubstantiated: 1
- Allegations of staff-on-youth sexual harassment: 0
- Allegations of staff-on-youth sexual abuse: 0
Data Analysis

There was an increase in the number of youth-on-youth abusive sexual contact allegations reported in 2016 compared to 2015, and there was a decrease in the number of youth-on-youth sexual harassment allegations in 2016 compared to 2015. However, after reviewing each of the allegations all claims were found to be unsubstantiated. In both 2015 and 2016, there were no reported allegations of youth-on-youth nonconsensual sexual acts nor any reports of staff-on-youth sexual harassment.

PREA Compliance Activities

Education: Residents receive age-appropriate information about the Agency’s Zero-Tolerance Policy for Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment within 10 days of intake. During intake, the youth will be assessed for the risk of sexual abuse by or upon another youth. The information obtained from screenings will determine if there are any housing, bed, program, education, or work assignment strategies staff should use to help keep all youth safe from sexual abuse.

Training: PREA training appropriate to an individual’s interactions with the residents will take place at hire and again annually, and employees/volunteers/contractors will sign and date a form when they received the training.

Reporting: Youth may report sexual abuse or harassment by various means, which include: submitting a written grievance, making a verbal report, speaking with upper management staff, or calling CPS. Staff will accept reports of abuse made verbally, in writing, anonymously, and from third parties. A supervisor will be contacted and the report will be documented and investigated.

Supervision: The Crossroads for Youth juvenile justice residential building allows for line of sight between staff and residents in each room or area in which the residents are located. Youth are not allowed to leave the direct supervision of staff except for shower and bathroom functions. The Agency is a non-secure facility and maintains a ratio of 1:8 during waking hours, and 1:16 during sleeping hours. Supervisors will also conduct unannounced walkthroughs that are documented and logged.

Investigations: Crossroads for Youth has an agency response plan that outlines the duties and responsibilities of the individuals involved. Training additional agency staff as investigators will be a priority in 2017.

Marc Porter, Executive Director

Melissa Wencley, PREA Compliance Manager