



PREA Annual Report 2015

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), a federal law enacted in 2003 (Public Act 108-79), was created to address the elimination and prevention of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement. This includes prison & jails, police lock-ups, residential community confinement facilities, and juvenile facilities. PREA covers issues/incidents related to resident-on-resident sexual assault, resident-on-resident abusive sexual contact, staff sexual misconduct and staff sexual harassment of a resident.

CRT and PREA:

CRT has one (1) program that currently falls under the federal PREA mandate: Fresh Start. As a residential community confinement facility Fresh Start is required to implement/be PREA compliant.

Fresh Start Program Overview:

Fresh Start is a 6 to 12 month residential treatment program for **female offenders in recovery and their children**. Residents must be 18 years of age or older and have a history of substance abuse. Custodial mothers with children and pregnant women are given preference. Residents are supported through recovery while mastering new life skills and learning how to be parents. Female-centered coping skills and trauma recovery are addressed in group sessions and individual sessions. Residents work towards independent living, continued self-reliance, and sober living. Assessments take place at court, prisons, or at Fresh Start.

Reported Incidents of Sexual Abuse or Sexual Harassment in this Facility		
YEAR	#	Comments
2015	0	There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.
2014	0	There were no reported incidents of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in this facility.

CRT Progress in Addressing PREA Standards:

Establish a PREA Team and Complete Certification Requirements - The first step in the process was identifying the persons to take on the roles of PREA Coordinator and PREA Manager, and the PREA support staff all of whom had to complete the PREA certification process and receive PREA training. CRT’s PREA Coordinator is Jim Pestana, Director of Quality Assurance. CRT’s PREA Manager is Janet Rodriguez, Fresh Start Program Manager.

Created PREA Policies and Procedures - The Fresh Start Program Manager, in collaboration with a QA Program Monitor, researched the PREA requirements, and created 38 separate PREA Policies and Procedures totaling 72 pages. Areas addressed were as follows: Prevention Planning, Responsive Planning, Training and Education, Screening for Risk of Sexual Victimization and Abusiveness, Reporting,

Official Response Following a Resident Report, Investigations, Discipline, Medical and Mental Health Care, Data Collection and Review.

Established Linkages with Community Organizations - Fresh Start was mandated to implement establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with a community organizations to address PREA Standard 115.282: Access to emergency medical and mental health services, and PREA Standard 115.283: Ongoing medical and mental health care for sexual abuse victims & abusers. The Fresh Start Program Manager worked with staff from the CT Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc. (CONNSAC) to establish a MOU with one of their members, the YWCA of New Britain.

PREA Audit Completed in 2015 - For the first time, the Fresh Start Program was audited for compliance with PREA Standards. CRT contracted with G4S Services to conduct the audit. A pre-audit checklist, PREA Policies and procedures, along with supporting documentation were submitted to G4S a month prior to the visit. On November 14-15, 2015, the auditor conducted a facility tour, requested additional documentation, and conducted separate staff interviews, and resident interviews.

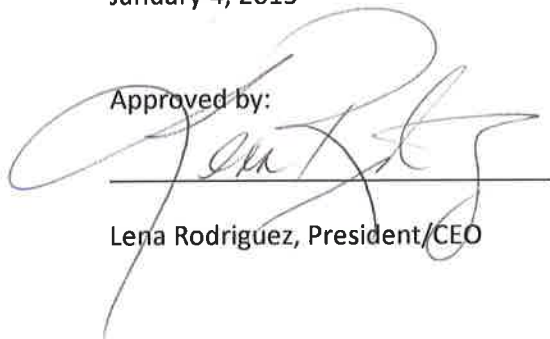
PREA Audit Results:

On November 23, 2015, CRT was notified that the agency was 100% compliant with all the PREA Standards, with no corrective actions identified. Of the 32 total standards, 2 areas exceeded standards and 30 met standards.

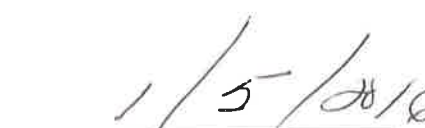
[FRESH START PREA AUDIT FINAL REPORT- 2015.pdf](#)

Report Completed by
Jim Pestana, PREA Coordinator
January 4, 2015

Approved by:



Lena Rodriguez, President/CEO



Date