

NATIONAL
PREA
RESOURCE
CENTER

PREA and Victim Services: A Trauma-Informed Approach
Notification of Curriculum Utilization
October 2014

The enclosed *PREA and Victim Services: A Trauma-Informed Approach* curriculum was developed by Just Detention International (JDI) as part of contract deliverables for the National PREA Resource Center (PRC), a cooperative agreement between the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards served as the basis for the curriculum's content and development, with the goal of the *PREA and Victim Services: A Trauma-Informed Approach* curriculum being to satisfy specific PREA standard requirements.

It is recommended that the *PREA and Victim Services: A Trauma-Informed Approach* curriculum be reviewed in its entirety before choosing which modules to use. Any alterations to the original materials must either be acknowledged during their presentation or have the PRC and JDI logos removed.

BJA is currently undergoing a comprehensive review of the enclosed curriculum for official approval, at which point the BJA logo may be added.

Note: Use of the enclosed curriculum, either in part or whole, does not guarantee that an auditor will find a facility "meets standards." Rather, an auditor will take into consideration the curriculum used as part of their overall determination of compliance.

Notice of Federal Funding and Federal Disclaimer – This project was supported by Grant No. 2010-RP-BX-K001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice nor those of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), which administers the National PREA Resource Center through a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Developing a Victim-Centered Response to Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment

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Welcome

Victims Services and PREA



Pre-Test

Take a moment to complete the pre-test

Do not write your name on it

When you are finished, turn it over and the facilitators will collect it

Introductions

Faculty and Participants

- Your name
- Where you work
- One important thing about the work you do

Acknowledgement

Just Detention International (JDI) developed this training and materials in partnership with the National PREA Resource Center (PRC).

***JDI** is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention.*

*The mission of the **PRC** is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community corrections and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents and services to victims and their families.*

Today's Goals

What do you want to get out of today's session?

Details, Details, Details

Logistics

- Adult Learning Principles
- Professional Courtesy
- Today's schedule
- Breaks and lunch
- Survivor testimony
- 'Parking Lot' Issues

Module 1
Victim-Centered Responses to
Sexual Abuse and Sexual
Harassment in Detention

Details, Details, Details

Some Notes about Language

- We will use the word 'detention,' 'detention facilities,' and 'corrections facilities,' in reference to a broad range of corrections facilities
- We will use the term 'corrections officials' to refer to a broad range of people who work in such settings
- We will use the terms 'victim' and 'survivor' to refer to people who have been sexually abused or sexually harassed

Module Objectives

- Learn components of trauma-informed care and philosophy
- Examine best practices for victim-centered responses, with an emphasis on the PREA Standards
- Practice responding to sexual abuse through a small group exercise

Victim-Centered Response to Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment in Detention

Trauma-Informed Care

Understand the impact of trauma and take it into account in

- Philosophy
- Policy
- Practice

The way things have always been done may not be trauma informed and may not be helpful

The agency examines and refines practices to make sure victims are not re-traumatized

Trauma-Informed Practices

Individual Approach

- Survivors are treated with dignity and informed about and connected to the process after a disclosure or request for help
- Staff are trained to understand the relationship between trauma and changes in behavior
- Staff work in collaboration with the survivor's support system and other human services agencies—they can provide support that facility staff cannot

The Basics of Sexual Trauma

Sexual Abuse

- Is caused by any kind of unwanted sexual behavior, including sexual harassment or attempted rape
- Is one of the most traumatic forms of criminal victimization
- Affects a survivor's core sense of self

Understanding Trauma

A Traumatic Event

- Is life-changing
- Is, or is perceived to be, a near-death experience
- Triggers the 'fight, flight, or freeze' response

Understanding Trauma: Short Term

During the Traumatic Event

- The ability to cope is overwhelmed
- The person may feel completely out of control
- Everyone reacts differently and it is difficult to predict how a person will react

Understanding Trauma: Long Term

A Traumatic Event

- Changes the way memories are stored
- Changes the survivor's reactions to new events
- Affects the survivor's ability to handle crises and fear

Cecilia's Story



Putting it into Action

Small Group Exercise

- Review the scenario
- What are some trauma-informed ways to respond?
- Are there things that you are not currently doing that might work?
- Choose a reporter and share with the group

Why Trauma-Informed?

This Approach

- Is a recognized best practice
- Strengthens investigative outcomes
- Is consistent with PREA standards
- Reduces impact of trauma on survivors
- Increases safety and accountability

For More Information

For more information about the **National PREA Resource Center**, visit www.prearesourcecenter.org. Direct questions to info@prearesourcecenter.org

For more information about **Just Detention International**, visit www.justdetention.org. Direct questions to info@justdetention.org.

Connect with JDI:



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