The Illinois Department of Corrections continues to coordinate their PREA efforts through the State’s Training Academy and by committee. The Illinois Department of Corrections has found success in its efforts by utilizing a committee as a standing group to review issues regarding the proposed standards and individual cases. This committee consists of a member from each of the following areas: Training, Programs, Investigations, Mental Health, Medical, Legal, Transfer Coordinator’s Office, Inmate Issues, and our Policy Department. This committee meets as needed, traditional 2-3 times a year to discuss any specific issues, specific cases, and the effect of the proposed issues in these areas.

The Department continues to provide training to all new incoming security and non-security staff. This training is provided by Training Academy Staff, with an introduction and question/answer period with the State PREA Coordinator. This has been well received and has been a wealth of information in the development of this program. Training continues to provide on-going training to our existing staff, Management staff, and investigators. This training is offered through our “Prison Rape Elimination Act Course”. An aspect of this course is the completion of their PREA Questionnaire.

The Department is also currently visiting their inmate orientation program. The program is being standardized to allow for consistency and to assist with ADA issues. A portion of this program currently in development involves PREA.

The Department also began utilizing a PREA Checklist and a PREA After-Action Checklist. The initial checklist is to be completed within 48 hours of a reported sexual assault or custodial sexual misconduct case. This information is then forwarded to the State’s PREA Coordinator for review. The within 60-days after the event the facility must complete the second checklist to establish where the case stands. This also is forwarded to the State’s PREA Coordinator. This information is then tracked, where trends develop or issues that violate current policy are then forwarded for review by the State’s PREA Standing Committee. This has aided greatly in the development of information for tracking cases throughout the state.

The Department also currently has an Administrative Policy pending the release of the proposed standards.