



Division of Facility Programs and
Operations
30 West Spring Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

ODYS Youth Safety Guide

CHECKING IN FOR:

**Your
Safety at
ODYS**



The Basics

While you are in ODYS custody, it is important to us that you remain safe and free from sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment. We want to help all youth become successful in an environment that is safe.

What's Inside:

Read this booklet to learn how to stay safe at ODYS:

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Important Notes



Rape Crisis and Victim Advocacy Organizations

Cuyahoga Juvenile Correctional Facility (CHJCF)

Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
24 Hour Hotline – (216) 619-6192
526 Superior Avenue, Suite 1400, Cleveland OH 44114
Office Phone: (216) 619-6195

Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility (SJCF)

Helpline of Delaware and Morrow Counties
24 Hour Hotline – 1-800-684-2324
11 N. Franklin St., Delaware OH 43015
Office Phone : (740) 363-1835

Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility (IRJCF)

Stark County American Red Cross
24 Hour Rape Crisis Hotline – (330) 452-1111
408 Ninth Street SW, Canton OH 44707
Office Phone: (330) 453-0146

Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility (CJCF)

Transitions/Haven House of Pickaway County
24 Hour Crisis Line - (740) 477-9113
1180 N. Court Street, Suite G
Office Phone: (740) 474-9430

Youth calls are subject to monitoring. ODYS must report all incidents of alleged sexual abuse and sexual assault to the appropriate Children Services Agency and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

SO, HOW WILL THIS BOOKLET HELP ME STAY SAFE?

This booklet gives you important information about your safety in ODYS facilities. Youth and staff safety is one of the most important values of ODYS.

It also tells you how to:

- ✓ **Be safe in ODYS facilities.**
- ✓ **Get help if you are sexually abused/assaulted or sexually harassed.**
- ✓ **Take the right steps to report if you are sexually abused/assaulted or sexually harassed.**



ODYS Has a Zero Tolerance for Sexually Abusive/Assaultive and Sexually Harassing Behaviors

This means if any youth or staff member is sexually abusive/assaultive or sexually harassing, ODYS will investigate the allegation sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment. The investigation will follow laws and rules that

Definitions

Sexual abuse of a youth or resident by another youth or resident includes any of the following acts, if the victim does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument; and
- (4) Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation.

Sexual abuse of a youth or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the youth or resident:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (4) Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (5) Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh,



What will happen if I sexually abuse/assault or sexually harass someone?

We will investigate the sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment and will seek criminal charges. If you are found guilty you could face more time in ODYS custody, or be placed in an adult correctional facility depending on your age and the charges filed. If you have trouble controlling your actions, seek help so that you don't harm anyone.

What should I do if I witness sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment or even just suspect I witnessed sexual abuse or sexual harassment?

You need to report any sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment or suspected sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment you witness. An investigation will take place to find the truth. You won't get in trouble if you make an honest report.

What will happen if I make a false report?

Staff members take reports of sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment very seriously. If you choose to make a false report of sexual abuse/assault or sexual harassment against anyone, it will be discovered. Anyone making a false report will be held accountable. This includes loss of incentives/privileges and possible new criminal charges. Our goal is to provide the safest facility possible. Being honest in what you say and do is a big

If Sexual Abuse/Assault or Sexual

What are the steps I should take if I'm sexually abused/assaulted?

If you are in a ODYS facility and have been sexually abused/assaulted, it is important that you do the following:

- √ Report the sexual abuse/assault to a staff member.
- √ The staff member will separate you from the abuser/assaulter and ensure that you get medical attention immediately. You will also receive the behavioral health services you need.

The following steps help preserve evidence so ODYS can take action against the person who is alleged to have abused you. It is important that you avoid the following until you get medical attention:

DO NOT:

- Shower or wash
- Eat or drink
- Use the restroom
- Brush your teeth



What are the steps I should take if I'm

If you are in a ODYS facility and have been sexually harassed, it is important that you do the following:

- √ Report the sexual harassment to a staff member.
- √ The staff member will separate you from the harasser and you will receive the behavioral health services you need.

Definitions

or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;

(6) Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described in paragraphs (1)-(5).

(7) Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of a youth or resident, and

(8) Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer means an invasion of privacy of a youth or resident by staff for reasons unrelated to official duties, such as peering at a youth who is using a toilet in his or her room to perform bodily functions; requiring a youth to expose his or her buttocks, genitals, or breasts; or taking images of all or part of youth's naked body or of a youth performing bodily functions.

Sexual Assault – Any contact between the sex organ of one person and the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, or any intrusion of any part of the body of one person, or of any object into the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, by the use of force or threat of force. (ORC 2907.02)

Sexual harassment includes:

(1) Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one youth or resident directed toward another; and

(2) Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a youth or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or deroga-

The Problem of Sexual Abuse/Assault and Sexual Harassment

Whether you are living in a juvenile correctional facility or the community, the possibility always exists that another person may sexually abuse/assault or sexually harass you.

It is wrong for anyone to threaten or hurt another person.

Everyone deserves to be safe.

Unfortunately, some **YOUTH OR EVEN STAFF MEMBERS**

Sexually abusive/assaultive and sexually harassing behaviors are criminal acts and will be investigated and prosecuted when possible. This includes sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment.

Sexual and Romantic Activity

All sexual or romantic activity between staff Members, volunteers, contractors and youth is prohibited and may be against the law. Also, sexual activity between youth and other youth in juvenile correctional facilities is prohibited and in some cases is against the law.



How to Report Sexual Abuse/Assault

Talk to or send a letter or note to any of the following:

- ✓ Unit Manager
- ✓ Social Worker
- ✓ Youth Specialist
- ✓ Chaplain
- ✓ Psychology staff
- ✓ Teacher
- ✓ Nurse
- ✓ Other staff members at your facility



Or, you can make a report by:

- ✓ Filing a grievance and putting it in the locked grievance box on your unit.
- ✓ Calling the Legal Assistance Program (LAP) collect at:

All facility staff members know what to do if you have been harmed and how to help you become safe.

Your Rights

You have the right to be free from sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment. You also have the right to be free from retaliation for reporting incidents of sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment. If you are sexually abused/assaulted or sexually harassed or know of someone that has been sexually abused/assaulted or sexually harassed at your facility, you need to report it to a staff member immediately. Reporting can be hard to do but it will make sure that you or others are safe from harm. It also means that the person who caused the harm may not harm you or others any more. This is a very important way to make sure where you live is safe.

WHO DO YOU MEAN BY STAFF MEMBERS?

When we talk about staff members in this booklet, we are talking about any adults who are assigned by ODYS to work with or help



ODYS Works Hard to Keep You SAFE

Staff members will do everything they can to prevent sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment. The actions they will take include:

- ✓ **Supervising youth closely.**
- ✓ **Creating and enforcing rules to keep staff members and youth safe.**
- ✓ **Holding a person accountable (no matter who they are) if they sexually abuse/assault or sexually harass someone else. This means staff members will report the sexual abuse or sexual harassment so it can be investigated.**

Staying Safe

Promoting safety is not only what staff members do, but what you, as a youth must do. Here are some things you can do to remain safe.

Pay attention to:

✓ **Where you are.**

Avoid being isolated away from the main group where staff members can't see you. Position yourself in plain view. Sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment happens more often when a youth is isolated and alone with another person than when the youth is part of a group.

✓ **Situations that make you feel uncomfortable.**

Trust your gut feeling. If a situation feels wrong, it most likely is. Work to get yourself out of the situation and then report the situation to a staff member.

✓ **Special attention someone may be giving just to you.**

This may be favors, romantic or sexual advances, gestures or talk. This includes sharing secrets. You need to report this to a staff member.

✓ **Who you tell private information to.**

Youth have been known to use this information to get another youth to do



Do not:

✓ **Accept any offer of protection.**

Someone offering to protect you from consequences or harm from anyone else will want something in return.

✓ **Accept a loan or gift.**

Do not borrow, gamble or trade anything. Avoid owing anything to anyone.

✓ **Let manners get in the way of keeping yourself safe.**

Do not be afraid to shout **"NO"** or **"STOP IT NOW."**

TAKE ACTION!

★ Tell a staff member immediately if someone tries to isolate you, singles you out, gives you anything special, wants to trade or loan an item, or offers you protection.

★ It is very important that you report these things to a staff member.

★ If the staff member doesn't take you seriously or does not believe you, tell another staff member about it.