3 Clear Goals of PREA

PREVENT:
Standards require, among other things, that facilities:

- Develop and maintain a Zero Tolerance policy regarding Sexual Abuse;
- Designate a PREA point person to coordinate compliance efforts;
- SCREEN INMATES for risk of being sexually abusive, and use screening information to inform housing, work, education and program assignments;
- Develop and document a staffing plan that provides for adequate levels of staffing and, where applicable, video monitoring;
- Train employees on their responsibilities to prevent, recognize and respond to sexual abuse;
- Perform background checks on prospective employees and not hire those identified as abusers;
- Prevent juveniles from being housed with adult inmates or have unsupervised contact with adult inmates in common areas;
- Ban cross-gender pat searches of female inmates in prisons/jails and of both male and female residents of juvenile facilities;
- Incorporate unique vulnerabilities of LGBTI and gender non-conforming inmates into training and screening protocols;
- Enable inmates to shower, perform bodily functions and change clothing without improper viewing by staff of the opposite gender;
- Restrict the use of solitary confinement as a means of protecting vulnerable inmates; and
- Enter into or renew contracts only with outside entities that agree to comply with PREA standards.
DETECT:
Standards require, among other things, that facilities:

✓ Make inmates aware of policies and inform them how to report sexual abuse;
✓ Provide multiple ways for inmates to report sexual abuse, including contact of an outside agency, and allow inmates to report abuse anonymously upon request;
✓ Provide a method for staff and other third parties to report abuse on behalf of an inmate;
✓ Develop policies to prevent and detect any retaliation against those who report sexual abuse or cooperate with investigations; and
✓ Ensure effective communication about facility policies and how to report sexual abuse with inmates with disabilities and inmates who are limited English proficient.

RESPOND:
Standards require, among other things, that facilities:

✓ Provide timely and appropriate medical/mental health care to victims of sexual abuse;
✓ Where available, provide access to victim advocates from rape crisis centers for emotional support services related to sexual abuse;
✓ Establish an evidence protocol to preserve evidence following an incident and offer victims no-cost access to forensic medical exams;
✓ Investigate all allegations of sexual abuse promptly and thoroughly and deem allegations substantiated if supported by a preponderance of evidence;
✓ Discipline staff and inmate assailants appropriately, with termination as the presumptive disciplinary sanction for staff who commit sexual abuse;
✓ Allow inmates a full and fair opportunity to file grievances regarding sexual abuse so as to preserve their ability to seek judicial redress after exhausting administrative remedies; and
✓ Maintain records of incidents of abuse to use for future prevention planning.