

Annual PREA Report 2018

Gateway Foundation - Texas

This document reviews our Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) reporting data, highlights our accomplishments for 2018, and outlines our goals for compliance with the PREA standards in 2019.

Community Corrections Programs

Gateway Foundation - Texas

Introduction

The Gateway Foundation – Texas community corrections programming scope mandates coordination with onsite and local County department of corrections (DOC) liaisons. As contractors with the respective County DOCs, who operate community substance use program facilities, we follow the Community Confinement Standards located at 28 C.F.R. 115. This is the initial PREA Annual Reporting year for Gateway, and we are moving forward with compliance. Our three community confinement facility locations (at Travis, Harris and Dallas Counties) encompass the reporting data collected in this document.

Summary

Gateway Foundation Corrections maintains a zero tolerance standard for sexual misconduct at any facility that we operate. Our first year of fully implementing the PREA standards and collecting data for an annual report proved to be critical to the overall effectiveness of the services to our resident population. From developing an enterprise policy and hiring practices to support a “Zero tolerance” mandate, to revising our training and contracting templates, we are moving forward with embracing the PREA standards and navigating a culture shift at our community corrections programs in Texas.

Policy Statement:

*Gateway Foundation
Corrections (Gateway)
maintains a zero
tolerance standard for
sexual misconduct in any
correctional or
community-based facility
where operations are
located.*

Data Review

The following is an overview of the reporting data at each of our community confinement locations:

Program - Travis County	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual harassment resident-resident		3	1
Sexual abuse resident-resident		1	
Sexual harassment staff-resident			
Sexual abuse staff-resident			1
Total		4	2

Program - Harris County	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual harassment resident-resident		1	2
Sexual abuse resident-resident			
Sexual harassment staff-resident			
Sexual abuse staff-resident			
Total		1	2

Program - Dallas County	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual harassment resident-resident		1	
Sexual abuse resident-resident			
Sexual harassment staff-resident			
Sexual abuse staff-resident			
Total		1	

	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Aggregate Totals:	0	6	4

Corrective actions included separating residents upon receipt of a report of alleged harassment or abuse, and contacting law enforcement when reported conduct was criminal in nature.

Process improvements included enhancing our communication and cooperation with respective County PREA coordinators, and reviewing and revising policies and procedures to better align with the PREA standards.

Accomplishments in 2018

We implemented a screening process to prevent harm and assess risks at intake. Place enhanced our training program and designated a high level trainer, ensuring that PREA standards are part of orientation for new staff and residents, we developed a high level enterprise policy and reviewed detailed procedural guidelines at each facility. We established multiple reporting channels to confidentially receive resident reports and posted the reporting information on our public website. We prepared standard language in order to implement PREA contracting expectation for all vendors and have executed PREA training attestations for staff and volunteers. All medical staff are enrolled in specialized training in PREA responsibilities through the National Institute of Corrections (NIC).

Goals for PREA Compliance in 2019

In 2019 we will be audit ready and expect to conclude our first PREA audit successfully. We expect to have a more robust data collection and review process and look forward to comparing data from 2019 against the data from 2018. We also intend to hold trainings in PREA investigations, in order to have fully trained investigators on site at each of our facility operations.

Conclusion

While we have been working towards compliance with PREA standards since gaining the contract in Harris County (2017), we consider 2018 the first year the PREA standards were fully implemented, with data from all three of our community confinement locations having been collected and reviewed.