

PREA Stakeholder Work Group

Date: July 21, 2015

Attendees: Lori Scamahorn, Eric Crawford, Dan Henry, Rick Torrance, Andrea Piper-Wentland, and Kelley Amburgey-Richardson

Welcome and Introductions with New Participants: Mr. Crawford introduced Mr. Henry, who is a field representative from a JJRA community facility.

- Mr. Henry has been involved in many aspects of juvenile detention work, including training development and presentation
- He has been acting as a resource for other juvenile facility staff, and is currently stationed at the JJRA Administration office in Olympia

Update from WCSAP on Grant Activities

Ms. Amburgey-Richardson and Ms. Piper-Wentland shared lessons learned from WCSAP's recent inmate focus group at WCCW (Purdy):

- Specific details and identifying information are kept confidential
- Inmates have an understanding of PREA
- More education about confidential services available is needed for staff and inmates, especially re: difference between confidential hotline and reporting hotline/mechanisms
- Terminology is also potentially an issue – what does "victim advocate" mean?
- As we move forward, we will need to think about effective messaging to inmates and staff about advocacy services
- One more focus group is being scheduled for Airway Heights in the fall, and WCSAP will likely look to conduct more in next grant period
- Mr. Crawford suggested that a focus group at a JJRA facility would be helpful

Ms. Amburgey-Richardson shared information and feedback about the recent webinar from Just Detention International hosted by WCSAP:

- There was a good turnout of advocates on the webinar, from programs participating in the advocacy work with survivors in prison and those who are not currently involved
- Advocates were interested to learn more about different types of detention facilities and how to work with them
- JDI shared sample service agreements and MOUs for different facility types
- Will be a good starting point for advocates to build readiness

Ms. Amburgey Richardson shared that the trainings for corrections staff and advocates will be held November 9 – 10 in SeaTac.

- WCSAP is working to finalize agreement for JDI to present at both trainings
- WCSAP will provide travel reimbursement for advocates and will hope to for corrections staff as well
- Ms. Scamahorn shared that DOC would hope one representative from each prison would attend (12) and that work release would send regional representatives (approx. 14 facilities, not all would send someone). She will follow up with an exact number.
- Mr. Crawford shared that JJRA would send approximately 6 staff, and that travel reimbursements would be helpful

Ms. Amburgey-Richardson shared examples of technical assistance that WCSAP has recently provided to community sexual assault programs related to advocacy with incarcerated survivors of sexual assault:

- Support with training jail staff re: how to respond to sexual assault disclosures in a trauma-informed way
- Support building a relationship and advocacy service agreement with a juvenile detention facility
- Information about PREA standards to prepare for a first meeting with a local jail
- Helping identify confidential locations for in person services in prison and develop statewide guidance for programs to implement local protocols

Updates from Corrections Participants

Mr. Crawford, Mr. Newlin, and Ms. Scamahorn have shared with WCSAP their staff training and inmate education materials.

- WCSAP will review prior to next meeting and will follow up with questions if necessary
- Ms. Scamahorn shared that DOC's monthly PREA implementation team meeting usually involves discussion and information sharing about advocacy
- She also shared that DOC has a new inmate brochure, but it has not been distributed publicly yet, as they are resolving some technical issues with the reporting hotline
- Mr. Crawford shared that he and Mr. Henry recently conducted an informal audit of a JJRA facility and concurred that education about advocacy is needed for residents and staff
- Mr. Henry suggested a poster would be effective in juvenile facilities as brochures tend to be discarded by residents

- Ms. Amburgey-Richardson suggested that as we learn more about each facility type, WCSAP will be able to provide practical examples of what advocacy could look like with survivors in that facility
- Ms. Piper-Wentland mentioned that at a recent tour of the Washington State Penitentiary, we learned that inmates in closed custody units receive a Duck Bag with essentials and this could be a great way to get the PREA brochure into all incoming inmates' hands without potential for harassment in having the material in their cell
- She also shared that WCSAP will be meeting with DOC about the possibility of developing a video that explains advocacy to inmates, as the PREA videos seem to have been an effective means of distributing information to them
- She also asked participants to talk with others at their facility about what would be useful in terms of education about advocacy and share anything learned at the next meeting

Action Items

- Participants please fill out the meeting doodle survey previously sent by Ms. Amburgey-Richardson, to determine dates for next two meetings
- Ms. Amburgey-Richardson will review inmate and staff PREA education materials sent in by prisons, JRA and jails. She will contact members with any questions.
- Ms. Scamahorn will follow-up with work release and request the materials be sent to Ms. Amburgey-Richardson.
- Mr. Henry will participate in next meeting, as available, for discussion of access to advocacy services, to provide field perspective
- Each workgroup member will ask their staff what was helpful in shaping their understanding of advocacy and available advocacy services and report back at the next meeting