

## **Rutherford House 2018 Annual PREA Report**

### **PREFACE**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act ( PREA) is a Federal law that prohibits and seeks to eliminate sexual assaults and sexual misconduct in correctional and juvenile institutions. The Rutherford House and the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for staff and residents.

Due to the number of sexual abuse and sexual harassment incidents of juveniles in any secure or community facility, the Rutherford House has a **ZERO TOLERANCE for sexual abuse, sexual harassment** of any person and/or sexual relations between staff and residents.

Residents who sexual assault another resident will be disciplined and referred to law enforcement. Rutherford House does not allow residents to be in a relationship with other residents while they are in placement at Rutherford House.

Employees, contract staff, volunteers, and vendors who engage in sexual contact or sexual misconduct or harassment with a resident will be terminated and referred for criminal prosecution when applicable.

A youth is placed in our facility as a result of a contract between Rutherford House and the Office of Juvenile Justice. The safety of each youth is the primary concern of both OJJ and Rutherford

House. This safety includes the mental, physical, emotional, and sexual well being of each youth. Our goal is to provide the best care and treatment for youth placed into our programs. For this to be accomplished, our staff must be truly committed to excellence, the physical and sexual safety of each resident and to the belief that positive change is possible.

Rutherford House continues to teach and train the staff and residents on our **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy for sexual abuse/abuse, harassment and retaliation for reporting.

Rutherford House works hard to provide a safe environment for all residents in the facility, which starts at pre - admission screening, continues with the admission process, medical and mental health assessments, reviews and discussions with probation officers and counselors wherein all pertinent information is communicated with all parties required. Rutherford House will continue to review and make adjustments necessary to ensure compliance at all times.

### **Report - 2018**

- **3 PREA related incidents referred for investigation**
- **2 youth/youth**
- **1 staff / youth**
  
- **2 unsubstantiated**
- **1 unfounded**

*Ara W. Juvel - Director*