

## On the Inside: The Logistics of Providing Services Behind Bars

June 25, 2014 11am – 12:30pm (Pacific)



#### **Today's Moderator**



Carolina Aparicio Communications Officer Just Detention International



#### **Mission and Core Goals**

JDI is a health and human rights organization that seeks to end sexual violence in all forms of detention.

#### Core goals:

- 1. To hold government officials accountable
- 2. To change public attitudes about sexual violence behind bars
- 3. To ensure survivors get the help they need



#### **Special Thanks**

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Office on Violence Against Women

The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this webinar are those of the presenters and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.



#### **Webinar Logistics**

- Use the question box to submit questions or comments
- An archive of this webinar will be emailed to you in the next few days
- It will also be posted on the JDI website:

www.justdetention.org/ advocate-resources

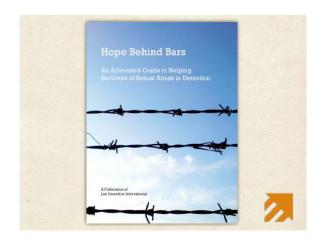




#### **Webinar Agenda**

- I. Services for Incarcerated Survivors
- II. Incarcerated Survivors' Needs
- III. To Report or Not to Report: PREA, Liability, and Confidentiality
- IV. Survivor Account: Life-Saving Services
- V. Written Agreements and Program Plans
- VI. Funding and Resources
- VII. Questions and Answers





# Services for Incarcerated Survivors Vivian Jojola Program Director Just Detention International

## Services for Incarcerated Survivors Written correspondence Hotline calls Hospital accompaniment Follow-up In-person counseling in some settings Group counseling Legal and systems advocacy

#### **To Report or Not to Report**

### The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standards:

- Apply to prisons, jails, youth facilities, police lockups, and community confinement facilities
- Encourage corrections facilities to work with rape crisis and other victim services organizations



#### To Report or Not to Report

#### The PREA Standards require that facilities:

- Provide a way for people to contact local, state, or national agencies that provide emotional support, via hotlines or mail
- Offer a way for inmates to report to an external entity



#### To Report or Not to Report

#### On the other hand:

- The PREA Standards are <u>not</u> binding on rape crisis centers
- They do <u>not</u> change the legal and ethical principles that guide rape crisis services



#### **To Report or Not to Report**

#### **PREA Standards and Mandated Reporting:**

- All staff members who work in corrections facilities are mandated reporters
- The Standards do not affect other mandatory reporting requirements, including for rape crisis counselors working with incarcerated survivors



#### To Report or Not to Report

#### Confidentiality:

- Affirm duty of rape crisis counselors to maintain confidentiality
- Discuss and recognize concerns about, and benefits of confidential services
- Document confidentiality guidelines in written agreements





#### Joe's Story: Life-Saving Services





#### Joe's Story: Life-Saving Services

- A compassionate witness
- Connection with the outside world
- Validation
- Lesson: some support is far better than none





#### **Written Agreements**

- Describe the commitments of each party
- Include any deal breakers
- · Allow for flexibility
- Be reflective of the process





#### **Memorandum of Understanding**

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#### **Parameters of Services**

- Start with crisis services
- Develop a multi-phased plan
- Consider the needs of survivors
- Think creatively



#### Logistics



Linda McFarlane
Deputy Executive Director
Just Detention International





#### **Hotline Calls: The Setup**

- What is the phone system?
  - Collect calls, pin number, calling cards
- When can prisoners make calls?
- Distinguish between the reporting line and a counseling line





#### **Hotline Calls: Confidentiality**

- Location of phones
- Monitored or recorded calls
- Reporting
  - Requests by prisoners or required by the facility





#### **Hotline Calls: Troubleshooting**

- How will you manage off-topic or prank calls?
- What if you need to inform the facility of a problem?
- What if prisoners are unable to use the hotline?
- What if you hear of retaliation for using the hotline?





## **Hospital Accompaniment:** The Setup

- Location of exams
- Transportation to the hospital
- The investigating agency
- The phone tree
  - Who will notify whom?
  - What's the response time?
- Meeting with the survivor privately



## **Hospital Accompaniment:** Confidentiality

- Logistics of meeting privately with the survivor
  - What if the survivor tells you something that is important to the case in the context of a private crisis session?
- Information
  - What information will you receive from the facility staff?
  - What will you provide?



## **Hospital Accompaniment: In the Exam Room**

- Who will be in the room during the medical exam and interview?
- Is it possible for the custody staff to supervise without being in the exam room?
  - If not, where will everyone stand?
  - Is there a privacy curtain?
  - Are there external windows? Is it possible to have sharp objects out of reach?



## **Hospital Accompaniment: In the Exam Room**

### Work together to maximize privacy prior to the exam. Consider:

- Is the survivor handcuffed and/or shackled?
- If the survivor is cuffed at the wrist to the exam table, can other restraints be removed?
- What are the needs of the forensic examiner in terms of freedom of movement for the survivor?



## **Hospital Accompaniment: Troubleshooting**

## What if the forensic examiner responds to the facility and advocates are not able to travel there?

- Stay in the conversation. Is it possible to work out a mileage fee?
- Can you negotiate a fee for service with the unit of government that oversees the facility?
- Can you provide support and information through the hotline or prearranged call? Or through telemedicine?

## **Hospital Accompaniment: Troubleshooting**

- What if the corrections officer insists that the rape crisis counselor cannot meet privately with the survivor?
- What if the forensic examiner insists that all incarcerated survivors must remain shackled?
- What if there is a security concern?



#### **Funding and Resources**

- Office for Victims of Crime
- Office on Violence Against Women
- Bureau of Justice Assistance
- Contracts
- · Private and Community Foundations
- County Measures



## • Practice self-care • Be prepared for challenging sessions and grueling stories • Anticipate feeling powerless to help





## **Upcoming Webinar** Wednesday, July 23, 2014 In Practice: Providing In-Person Counseling to Incarcerated Survivors 11:00 AM-12:30 PM (Pacific) Thank you for joining us today! Please complete a brief evaluation of today's webinar. Your feedback is very important to us. Here is a link to the evaluation (we will also email it to you shortly): http://www.justdetention.org/ en/on-the-inside-evaluation.aspx Please also forward it to anyone else who may have joined you. THANK YOU! **For More Information** For additional information, please visit JDI's Advocate Resource page: www.justdetention.org/advocate-resources Direct questions to: info@justdetention.org For more information about Just Detention International, Connect with JDI: www.facebook.com/JDIonFB www.twitter.com/justdetention