

Hope Behind Bars: Providing Services to Incarcerated Survivors

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Today's Moderator



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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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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





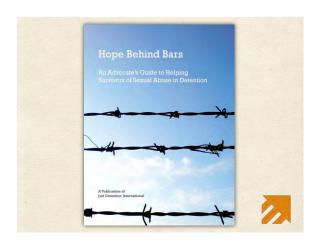
Webinar Agenda

- I. Guiding Principles
- II. Hospital Accompaniment
- III. Hotline Services
- IV. Inmate/Resident Correspondence
- V. In-Person Services
- VI. Adapting Interventions and Safety Planning
- VII. Questions and Answers



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Take a Non-Judgmental Approach

- Remember that an inmate is a complex person and worthy of respect
- Be open-minded
- Avoid discussing the inmate's criminal case





Be Patient, Consistent, and Persistent

- Inmates and residents may see the advocate as their only safe person
- It takes time to build trust
- Any session could be your last





Remind Survivors That They Are Not Alone

Incarcerated survivors often feel hopeless because they:

- · Are often punished for 'acting out'
- · Are isolated from support networks
- · Have no control over their environment



Trust Your Expertise

- Rape crisis advocates already work with a diverse group of clients
- The survivor-centered model works for everyone
- Support services should be tailored to meet the specific needs of the client



Professional Boundaries

Advocates should:

- Be clear about their roles, boundaries, and limitations of services
- Expect inmates and residents to ask for help with things that are unrelated to sexual abuse
- Learn facility guidelines about interactions with inmates and residents





Hospital Accompaniment

The PREA standards reinforce the right of survivors to have advocate present during:

- Forensic exams
- · Law enforcement interviews



Hospital Accompaniment

The advocate's role is to:

- Provide support, comfort, and information
- Help maintain privacy
- Prepare the survivor to return to the facility





Hotline Services

The PREA standards require facilities to:

- Attempt to enter into written agreements with rape crisis agencies
- Allow survivors access to advocates in as confidential a manner as possible
- Provide an outside, third-party reporting mechanism for inmates



Tips — Hotline Services

- Train advocates on the backgrounds, needs, and concerns of survivors
- · Be clear about confidentiality
- Work with a corrections point person
- Develop a protocol for handling reports and off-topic or prank calls



Story from the Field



Deana Buril
Deputy Director, Client Services
The Rape Crisis Center
San Antonio, TX





Written Correspondence

The PREA standards require facilities to:

- Allow survivors access to emotional support from a qualified rape crisis advocate
 - By providing a phone number or address
 - Ensuring all services are as confidential as possible
- Provide an outside, third-party reporting mechanism for inmates



Tips — Written Correspondence

- Handle letters as you would a hotline call
- · Send letters via confidential legal mail
- · Be mindful of exceptions to confidentiality
- Use simple, clear language, and a respectful tone
- Provide resources, support, information, and referrals

Story from the Field Desiree Magsombol Program Officer Just Detention International



In-Person Crisis Services

The PREA standards require facilities to:

- Allow survivors access to emotional support from a qualified rape crisis advocate
- Provide an outside, third-party reporting mechanism for inmates



Tips — In-Person Crisis Services

- Follow agency and facility rules and regulations
- Check in with a designated corrections staff person
- Learn the layout of the facility



Tips — In-Person Crisis Services

- Use discretion to ensure survivor confidentiality and privacy
- Be prepared to overcome disruption in services
- Have a plan to address attempts of suicide or self-harm
- Make a plan for follow-up care in the community



Story from the Field



Adapting Interventions

- Recognize the triggers in a corrections environment
- Work with survivors on:
 - Realistic, self-contained coping methods
 - How to access available resources





Safety Planning

Working with survivors, advocates should:

- · Help identify and assess threats
- Review what the survivor has already done
- Explain how the survivor can file a report
- Create a list of people and places to go to for help
- Discuss what to do in an emergency



Safety Planning

Ways to advocate for survivors' safety:

- · Follow up on grievances
- Contact medical or mental health staff about treatment
- Inquire about the status of the investigation
- Reach out to the PREA Coordinator or head of the facility

Story from the Field Arturo





Upcoming Webinar

Wednesday, June 25, 2014

On The Inside: The Logistics of Providing Services Behind Bars

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/hope-behind-bars-evaluation.aspx

Please also forward it to anyone else who may have joined you.

THANK YOU!



For More Information
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