ZERO TOLERANCE

The Colorado Division of Youth Services abides by the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standards which establish ZERO TOLERANCE for any sexual contact. The Standards are intended to assist institutions in the prevention, detection, and response to sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations.

# CONFIDENTIALITY

Information concerning the identity of a victim reporting sexual abuse, or harassment, and the facts of the report, are limited to those who have a need to know in order to make appropriate decisions concerning the victim's safety and an appropriate investigation.

### PROTECTION AGAINST RETALIATION

DYS will monitor all reports to prevent retaliation. If you fear or experience retaliation, let someone know and you will be protected.



All victim support services, access to community advocates and forensic medical treatment are provided at no cost to youth or their families.



COLORADO Division of Youth Services Office of Children, Youth & Families

What You Should Know About Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment



A Guide for Youth DYS Policy S9.19 July, 2020

# It's better to make a report and be wrong, than to not make one and be right!

- EMPLOYEE ON YOUTH SEXUAL ABUSE is any sexual activity between an employee and a youth with or without the consent of the youth. Is it prohibited and can result in the termination and/or criminal prosecution of the employee. Examples of behavior not allowed by staff include kissing, touching, hugging, vaginal sex, anal sex, oral sex, letters between an employee and a youth, sharing sexual stories or images with sexual content, or voyeurism. Voyeurism is an invasion of privacy of a youth that is unrelated to official duties.
- YOUTH ON YOUTH SEXUAL ABUSE is engaging in or attempting to engage in a sexual act without the consent of the other youth. This includes threatening or intimidating someone sexually, or pressuring another vouth to engage in a sexual act. Touching (either directly or through clothing) another youth on their genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or buttocks, without their express permission, is sexual abuse.

Sexual abuse happens to people of all ages, genders and sexual orientations. Sexual abuse is about power, not love. Being sexually aroused does NOT mean you were not abused, and is a normal reaction.

#### Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is repeated and unwelcome sexual advances or verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature, made towards a youth by another youth or employee. This includes, but is not limited to:

- $\Rightarrow$  Requests for sexual favors,
- $\Rightarrow$  Demeaning references to gender,

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- $\Rightarrow$  Sexually suggestive comments about body, clothing, gender identity or sexual orientation, or
- $\Rightarrow$  Repeated obscene language.

## You can avoid sexual abuse and sexual harassment!

DO NOT go to isolated areas alone or with others.

DO NOT trade, borrow, gamble, or accepts gifts or favors from youth or employees.

BE DIRECT and firm if someone asks you to do something you don't want to do.

BE AWARE of who you tell private information to.



If you or someone else has been sexually abused or sexually harassed:

- Tell any youth center employee.  $\Diamond$
- Tell the DYS PREA Coordinator.  $\Diamond$
- Fill out a grievance.  $\Diamond$
- Contact local law enforcement or a  $\Diamond$ local rape crisis center.
- $\Diamond$ Call the Department of Human Services hotline at 800-CO-4-KIDS (844-264-5437)
- $\Diamond$ Tell someone in your family.

Allegations made in bad faith (false reporting or a lie) may result in a Major Rules Violation intervention or criminal prosecution.

Your Youth Center PREA Compliance Manager is:
Name:
Phone number:
Email:
DYS PREA Coordinator:
720-391-3025
Youth signature:
Date: