

Phoenix House of New England Tapestry Program

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law enacted in 2003. It was created to eliminate sexual abuse in confinement facilities and other criminal justice supervisory settings. The National Prison Rape Elimination Commission developed recommended national standards, the final version of which became effective in 2012 and was published by the United States Department of Justice.

Due to the fact that the Phoenix House of New England (PHNE) Tapestry Program serves women who are under the supervision of the Vermont Department of Corrections, the PHNE Tapestry Program has been defined as a Community Confinement Facility under the national standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), 28 C.F.R. Part 115, standards finalized May 17, 2012. The PREA standards can be accessed online at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/06/20/2012-12427/national-standards-to-prevent-detect-and-respond-to-prison-rape>

The PHNE Tapestry Program maintains zero tolerance relating to any sexual misconduct, including sexual abuse and sexual harassment, between staff, contractors, or volunteers and residents. All incidents or allegations of sexual misconduct will be investigated; all incidents or allegations involving potentially criminal behavior by staff, contractors, volunteers, or residents, including all forms of forced or coercive sexual misconduct occurring among residents, will be referred for criminal investigation by the Brattleboro Police Department and potential prosecution by the State of Vermont.

Anyone, including third parties, may make a report of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, or associated retaliation that is witnessed or suspected at the PHNE Tapestry Program. Reports may be made verbally or in writing and may be made anonymously.

All reports made in good faith are encouraged. Reports can be made in the following ways:

1. Speak with any Tapestry staff member, including the Tapestry Director, or send a written letter or report to: Tapestry, 178 Linden Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301
Telephone: 802-257-2415 Fax: 802-251-0030
2. Call or write the PHNE Corporate Compliance Officer, Pamela Ryan: Phoenix House of New England, Human Resources, 99 Wayland Avenue, Suite 100, Providence, RI 02906 Telephone: 401-331-4250
3. Call or write the Vermont Department of Corrections, NOB 2 South, 280 State Drive, Waterbury, VT 05671-2000 Telephone: 802-241-2442 Fax: 802-241-0020
4. Call or write the Brattleboro Police Department, 230 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301 Telephone Emergency: 802-254-2321 Non-emergency: 802-257-7946