

Summary of PREA Implementation Activities Supported by FY 2015 PREA Reallocation Grants

In FY 2015, 40 states, territories, and the District of Columbia submitted Assurances and plans to the Department of Justice (DOJ) to use reallocated funds from the three DOJ grant programs impacted by PREA to support PREA implementation activities:

- (1) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program;
- (2) Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Formula Grant program; and
- (3) Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program.

The following are common themes across the jurisdictions' plans to use the impacted BJA, OJJDP, and OVW grant funds:

- Across the plans, there is a stated, strong commitment to the overarching, critical goal of establishing zero tolerance cultures related to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities.
- There is strong evidence in the plans indicating that many jurisdictions have conducted comprehensive assessments related to the implementation of the PREA standards, and developed strategies to address specific needs and challenges identified during these assessments.
- There are frequent references in the plans to specific PREA standards that are challenging to implement, and many of the plans define approaches to address these challenging standards.

Building upon these common themes, the 40 jurisdictions that submitted plans to use the impacted grant funds proposed a number of specific activities to support and enhance their PREA implementation efforts. The following are examples of common activities that were proposed:

- Prepare for and conduct PREA audits;
- Assist agencies and/or facilities to fully implement corrective active plans following PREA audits;
- Deliver staff training, including cross-agency training, related to PREA;
- Establish partnerships between state and/or local agencies responsible for confinement and outside confidential victim support services;

- Direct resources to support and enhance outside victim support services for incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, such as implementation of hotlines for inmates to report sexual abuse and/or seek support services and employment of dedicated victim advocates to respond to PREA requests;
- Make upgrades to facilities and technologies (e.g., installation of cameras or mirrors to allow for monitoring of facility blind spots);
- Conduct inmate, resident, and/or detainee education related to PREA;
- Automate and enhance the intake screening process to identify inmates, residents, and/or detainees who are at high risk of being victimized sexually, or high risk of perpetrating sexual abuse or harassment;
- Assess the culture in confinement facilities and develop strategies to implement and strengthen a zero tolerance culture related to sexual abuse and sexual harassment;
- Support a portion of the salary costs for key PREA staff members, including statewide agency PREA Coordinators; and
- Enhance data collection efforts related to PREA.