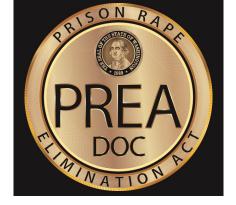
# After Release

After release, you or your family can access a confidential Community Sexual Assault Advocate by contacting a local program.

To find services in your area, dial **211.** This is a confidential community service line and a one-stop connection to local services.

You will reach a referral specialist who will assess your needs and provide a list of referrals to available resources in your community.



# Who To Contact

Call the Office of Crime Victim Advocacy 1-855-210-2087

Hours of operation Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Calls are not monitored or recorded and you do not need to enter your IPIN.

#### OR

Write to Just Detention International (a national victim advocacy support organization).

Mail must be sent as *legal mail* in order to remain confidential.

Just Detention International 3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340 Los Angeles, CA 90010



Department of Corrections P.O. Box 41100 Olympia, WA 98504-1100

> 400-BR020 (R 9/2021) Category 1



# Sexual Assault Support



### Victim Advocacy

A Resource for Incarcerated Individuals

## What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault occurs when a person is forced, coerced, exploited, and/or manipulated into unwanted sexual activity. It can include completed or attempted assault and may or may not involve force or threats.

Sexual assault is a range of behaviors that abusers use to establish and maintain power, control, and domination over their victim. It can begin with words, gestures, favors, jokes, or intimidation. It can progress to coercion, threats, sexual violence, rape, retaliation, and other forms of violence.

Aggravated sexual assault includes a staff-on-offender or offender-on-offender sexual act that occurred within the previous 120 hours and involved penetration or the exchange of body fluids.

If you have been affected by sexual assault or abuse, you can get help by contacting a victim advocate through the Office of Crime Victim Advocacy at

#### 1-855-210-2087

Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Calls are not monitored and you do not need to enter your IPIN.

## What to Expect

During your first call or meeting with an advocate, they:

- Will listen to you and provide support to help you cope with what you are experiencing.
- Can provide information and options for you to make decisions.
- Will keep the information you share confidential

#### **Advocate Services**

As a victim of sexual assault/abuse or staff sexual misconduct (not sexual harassment), you may request a victim advocate be made available during the investigation. It is your responsibility to tell the assigned investigator that you wish to have a victim advocate available to support you during the investigative process.

The investigator will make arrangements for victim advocacy by contacting the Office of Crime Victim Advocacy to schedule the interview at a time when the advocate will be available. The advocate will participate by telephone.

Some specific services an advocate can provide to a someone who has experienced sexual assault includes:

- Supporting a victim of an aggravated sexual assault during the forensic medical examination.
- Providing crisis intervention over the phone.
- Talking with a survivor about their safety in the weeks following the assault and helping the survivor plan for continued safety in the facility or in the community.
- Explaining the different PREA reporting options.

- Teaching coping skills to help a survivor heal from the traumatic experience.
- Explaining the facility's PREA investigation process.
- Supporting a survivor at an investigatory interview related to an aggravated sexual assault.

An advocate can also serve as a liaison between the survivor and the correctional facility or other systems that are involved. In addition, an advocate can inform survivors of other resources and services available to them.

#### What an Advocate's Role is Not

There are some things that an advocate cannot help with such as:

- Providing legal advice
- Making decisions for you
- Telling you whether to report the sexual assault or not
- Investigating a crime
- Providing therapy or other mental health treatment services