

**CT Renaissance, Inc.**  
**Annual PREA Report**  
**January 2021-December 2021**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was enacted to prevent sexual assaults and harassment in residential facilities housing individuals under the control of various components of the judicial system. PREA's provisions apply to both client/client and client/staff interactions. CT Renaissance has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. CT Renaissance ensures training, education, prevention, detection, response, investigation, and tracking of all reported acts of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

The agency will take necessary measures to ensure protection of those reporting or assisting in the investigation of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. CT Renaissance provides victims with access to external victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse. Clients may make verbal or written reports of sexual abuse or harassment to their Clinician, Program Director, PREA Coordinator, or any other employee they feel comfortable in reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment. They may contact the statewide CT Sexual Assault Crisis Service (24 hours) at 1-888-999-5545 in English and 1-888-568-8332 in Spanish. They may also contact Safe Haven, 29 Central Ave in Waterbury, CT at 203-753-3613 for sexual assault services or The Center for Family Justice located at 753 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, 203-334-6154, with whom the agency maintains Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). The crisis centers shall forward reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. Clients may remain anonymous if they desire. Clients also may call 911 for an immediate report to local and CT State Police.

In accordance with state and federal regulations, CT Renaissance Annual PREA Report for January 2021-December 2021 is as follows:

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance West at 466 West Main St, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance's Waterbury West is a 40-bed substance abuse treatment program. Waterbury West was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified PREA auditor in 2016 and 2019. In 2021, there were two reports of sexual harassment between residents in the facility. One incident involved a resident making inappropriate comments about another resident's sexuality. The second incident involved a resident inappropriately touching another resident on his chest. The incidents triggered a PREA incident report and investigation and while the alleged victims denied any concern for their safety and denied the events as sexual harassment or abuse, the results of both investigations were substantiated. Upon internal review, it was determined that the program would monitor the residents for retaliation, ensure that all residents are receiving PREA screenings and re-screenings and that all staff would participate in a PREA refresher. West is scheduled for a PREA audit in May 2022.

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance Central Work Release at 24 Central Avenue, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance Central Work Release is a 45-bed community work release facility. The facility was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified PREA auditor in 2016 and 2019. Central is scheduled for a PREA audit in May 2022. In 2021, there were no reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment in the facility.

**Community Confinement: CT Renaissance East Work Release at 31 Wolcott Street, Waterbury**

CT Renaissance East Work Release is a 64-bed work release facility. In 2021 there was one reported allegation of staff misconduct and violation of staff/resident boundary which triggered a PREA incident

report and investigation. The staff member was placed on immediate suspension pending the investigation. The allegations for sexual misconduct were substantiated as there was sufficient evidence that the employee violated agency policy and procedures for maintaining professional and ethical boundaries. The employee was terminated and will not be eligible for re-hire. CT Renaissance East was certified as PREA compliant by a DOJ-certified PREA auditor in August 2021.

**Community Confinement: Maple Street Work Release at 575 Maple Street, Bridgeport**

Maple Street is a 61-bed work release program. In 2021, there were two PREA allegations. One incident involved a resident who reported allegations of sexual abuse by a client. Video surveillance and state police investigation determined that the incident was unfounded. The second incident involved inappropriate relations between an employee and resident which prompted an investigation by the state police. The allegations for sexual misconduct were not substantiated however there was sufficient evidence that the employee violated Agency policy and procedures for maintaining professional and ethical boundaries. The employee was terminated and will not be eligible for re-hire.

Facility	Unfounded	Unsubstantiated	Substantiated	Total
West Residential	0	0	2	2
Central Work Release	0	0	0	0
East Work Release	0	0	1	1
Maple Street Work Release	1	1	0	2
Total 2021	1	1	3	5

Outcomes Definitions

- **Substantiated allegation:** The allegation was determined to have occurred by a preponderance of evidence.
- **Unsubstantiated allegation:** The evidence was insufficient to make a final determination that the allegation was true or false.
- **Unfounded allegation:** The allegation was determined not to have occurred.

**2021 Summary**

In 2021, there were 5 PREA allegations among the four community confinement facilities at CT Renaissance.

**PREA in 2022**

The agency has continued to provide PREA training for all new hires New Employee Orientation program. Trainings in mandated reporting and pat searches have been updated and are available to new and existing staff. West Residential and Central Work Release are due for PREA audits in 2022.

Report prepared by:

Katie Seto, MS, PREA Coordinator

Date: 1/10/2022

Date Reviewed and approved by:

Dawn Patston, LMFT, COO

Date: 1/10/2022