

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding is made by and between the Gallatin County Re-Entry Program ("GCRP"), a facility owned by Community, Counseling and Correctional Services (CCCS Inc.), and the **Help Center-Sexual Assault Center**, a community-based organization in the City of Bozeman.

Whereas, the United States Department of Justice has promulgated national standards for the implementation and enforcement of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, Public Law 108-79, 117 Stat. 973, *et seq.*, 45 U.S.C. 15601, *et seq.* (PREA); and

Whereas, the PREA national standards are found in the regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 115; and

Whereas, Subsection (d) of Section 115.21 and Subsection (d) of Section 115.221 of 28 C.F.R. Part 115 requires GCRP to attempt to make available to the victim of sexual assault or sexual abuse a victim advocate from a rape crisis center, either in person or by other means; and

Whereas, the Help Center, as a community-based organization that provides advocacy services to victims of sexual abuse and sexual assault, has agreed to provide crisis intervention and victim advocacy services to residents in the legal and physical custody of GCRP.

It is agreed between the Gallatin County Re-Entry Program and the Help Center as follows:

- 1.** 28 C.F.R. Section 115.21 and Section 115.221 requires GCRP to establish the following procedure to attempt to make available advocacy services to victims of sexual abuse and sexual assault who are residents in its legal and physical custody:
 - A.** Make involvement of certified rape crisis advocates a component of the GCRP's standard response to a report of sexual abuse and / or a request for help from a survivor of sexual assault.
 - B.** Any time that an incident or allegation of sexual abuse is discovered or reported within seventy-two (72) hours of the incident, the GCRP will transport the victim of sexual abuse and / or sexual assault to Bozeman Health Emergency Room for a forensic medical exam, and to meet with a rape crisis advocate from the Help Center-Sexual Assault Center.

- C. If the incident occurred more than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the report, the GCRP will ensure that the victim receives a medical evaluation and any needed medical treatment; a mental health evaluation; and contact information for the Help Center-Sexual Assault Center.
- D. Facilitate follow-up, whenever possible, between the resident victim of sexual abuse and / or sexual assault and a Help Center-Sexual Assault Center advocate by mail or telephone while the resident is residing in the GCRP. This should be done without regard to the presence or status of an investigation.
- E. Provide residents with confidential, 24-hour access to the Help Center-Sexual Assault Center's rape crisis hotline, at no cost, through the center's telephone system.
- F. Respect the confidential nature of communication between Help Center-Sexual Assault Center advocates and clients residing at GCRP.
- G. Ensure that Help Center-Sexual Assault Center advocates are cleared to enter GCRP for meetings, training sessions, or to meet with clients. Provide for other logistical needs, such as a private meeting space for counseling sessions. Facilitate the placement of informational placards with instructions on how to access the Help Center's rape crisis hotline in areas visible to residents.
- H. Communicate any questions or concerns to Help Center-Sexual Assault Center staff.

2. The Help Center-Sexual Assault Center agrees to:

- A. Respond to requests from the GCRP to provide advocacy when residents are brought to the Bozeman Health Emergency Room for sexual assault forensic exams.
- B. Respond to calls from GCRP residents received on the Help Center-Sexual Assault Center's rape crisis hotline.
- C. Provide follow-up services and crisis intervention contacts to victims of sexual assault at the GCRP, as resources allow.
- D. GCRP residents with prior conviction(s) of sexual assault or domestic violence shall be seen by the Help Center Intern Counseling Program.
- E. Work with designated officials of the GCRP to obtain security clearance and follow all facility guidelines for safety and security, as necessary.
- F. Maintain confidentiality of communications with clients residing at the GCRP.

G. Communicate any questions or concerns to GCRP administrative staff.

We, the below listed administrators, agree to the terms and conditions of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Any modification to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) must be in writing and signed by the below listed administrators.



Melissa Kelly
Program Administrator
Gallatin County Re-Entry Program



Date



Christina Powell
Executive Director, Help Center, Inc.



Date