

Facts Related to Sexual Assault/Abuse & Harassment

Each report will be thoroughly investigated and the appropriate action taken in the best interest of everyone, especially the victim. All voices will be heard.

False allegations against someone will result in consequences.

Certain types of sexual contact can increase the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease; including genital herpes, HIV, or AIDs.

Medical care and counseling will be provided as needed.

While in this facility you can expect that your physical safety is of the utmost importance to staff here and it should be of the utmost importance to you as well.

By cooperating with staff and following the rules, we can keep this facility a safe place.

Contact:
Missouri Department of Social Services
Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-392-3738.

National Child Abuse Hotline phone
or text 1-800-422-4453

Rights and Responsibilities –

- The right to be safe from harm; including safe from sexual assault/abuse and harassment.
- The responsibility to make your environment a safe and respectful place by not engaging in sexually assaultive/abusive and harassing behavior and by reporting problems.
- The right to be heard.
- The responsibility to speak up, listen and be honest.
- The right to express feelings.
- The responsibility to respect others feelings.
- The right to change, grow, and make mistakes in the process.
- The responsibility to allow others to change and grow and to learn from their mistakes.
- The right to make choices.
- The responsibility to deal with the choices you make.
- The right to an education
- The responsibility to use what you learn.

Preventing Sexual Assault

WE HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ASSAULT!

The Michael W. Prenger Family Center is a safe place. Your safety, the safety of other residents, and that of staff is important to us, but it takes everyone to maintain a safe facility. While here, you will be expected to do your part to help keep everything safe. This brochure will explain what you need to know to do your part.

1. Know the answer to these questions:

WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT/ABUSE?

Any contact no matter how slight between:

1. The penis and the genitals
2. Penis and anus
3. Penetration of the anal or genital opening by a hand, finger, object or other instrument.
4. Intentional touching (directly or through clothing) of genitals, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of another person.
5. Any request to engage in activities described above.
6. Any displays of uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast.
7. Or invasion of your privacy unrelated to official duties or programming.

WHAT IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT?

Repeated and unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body, clothing, or obscene language or gestures. The comments could be made by one resident directed to another resident or directed to a resident by staff or a volunteer.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

In this facility there is a zero-tolerance policy on sexual assault/abuse and harassment. It means that any type of sexual contact is not okay. This means that even if another person gives consent (says the contact is okay), it is against the rules at this facility and there will be consequences. You, staff, and volunteers could face criminal charges and adult imprisonment if this happens.

2. Know what to do about sexual assault/abuse:

Let Staff Know!!

Immediately REPORT any Sexually inappropriate behavior.

The only way for sexual assault and abuse to be prevented is for every person to make the choice not to engage in dangerous behaviors or victimize others.

Is there anything else you can do?

There are certain safety guidelines and ideas that you can keep in mind to minimize risk.

Be aware of your surroundings and the situation you are in.

If something doesn't seem right or you are uncomfortable, tell a staff member immediately.

Don't be afraid to stand up for yourself if you feel that another resident or staff member is treating you poorly; just make sure to do it in an appropriate way!

Keep conversations appropriate.

Focus on yourself and what you need to do while here.

3. Know what to do if you become a victim:

First off, report the sexual abuse, assault, or harassment to a staff member immediately. The longer you wait to report the problem, the better it is for the suspect and the harder it is to get you the help you might need. This help might include medical attention and access to a counselor or victim advocate.

Second, do your best to avoid the following if you have been assaulted:

1. Showering
2. Washing your hands
3. Brush your teeth
4. Using the restroom
5. Changing your clothes

This could destroy evidence that is important when it comes to holding the suspect responsible.

If you do not feel comfortable speaking to a staff member or if staff is not keeping you safe, then you can fill out a grievance form so your voice can be heard by the superintendent and other administrators. You can tell one of the group counselors, your parent/guardian, a teacher or your attorney and ask them to make a report for you.

Together we can keep the Michael W. Prenger Family Center safe!!