

NATIONAL
PREA
RESOURCE
CENTER



NCCD | National Council on
Crime & Delinquency

PREA in Action Webinar Series Embracing the Standards: Community Corrections

November 7, 2012

PREA Resource Center & Vera Institute of Justice

National PREA Resource Center (PRC)

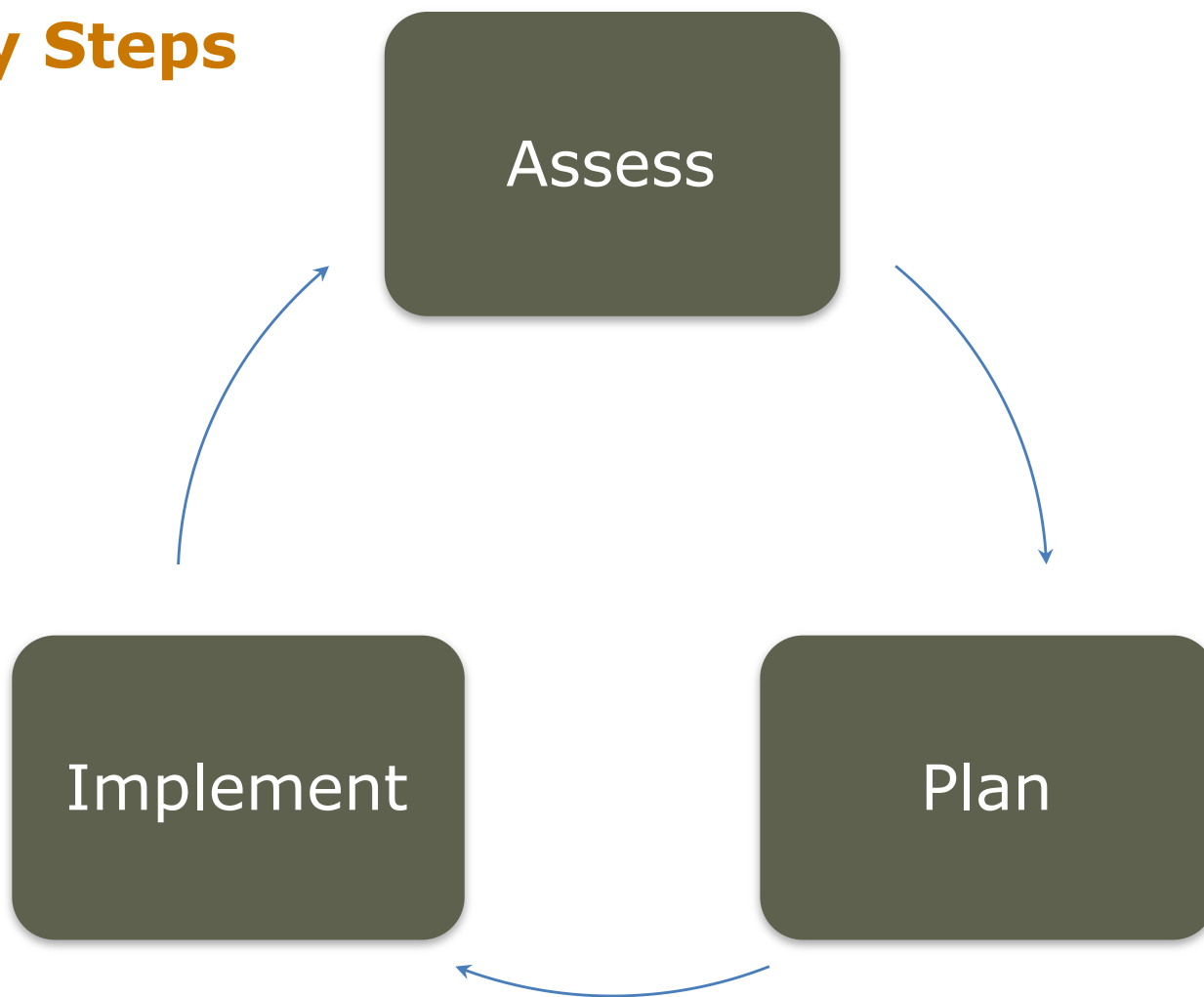
PRC was established through a cooperative agreement between the Bureau of Justice Assistance and NCCD. The mission of the PRC is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community corrections, and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents, and services to victims and their families.

Vera Institute of Justice

Vera was founded in 1961 and combines expertise in research, demonstration projects, and technical assistance to help leaders in government and civil society improve the systems people rely on for justice and safety.

Embracing the Standards

Key Steps



Embracing the Standards: Alvis House



Alvis, Inc.

Reconnecting Families

Restoring Communities

Reinvesting in Ourselves

Denise M. Robinson
President and CEO

Ramona Swayne
Vice President, Operations

Gloria Iannucci
Assoc. Vice President, Communications

Alvis, Inc., dba Alvis House
2100 Stella Court, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: (614) 252-8402
www.alvishouse.org

NATIONAL
PREA
RESOURCE
CENTER

Agency Divisions

Criminal
Justice and
Reentry

Residential
Reentry
Centers

Community
Reentry
Centers

Services for
Individuals with
Developmental
Disabilities

Intermediate
Care Facility

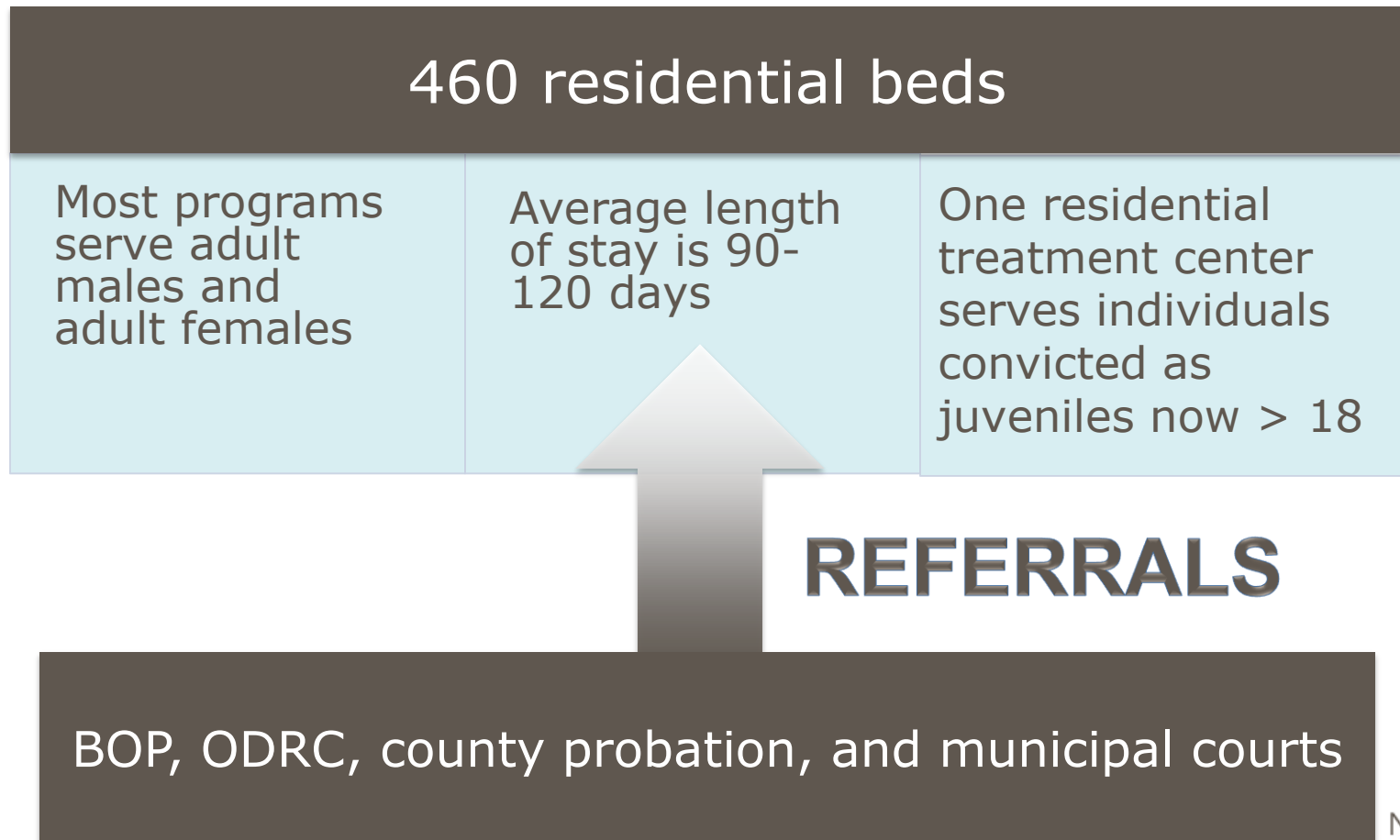
Supported
Living Services

Facilities

- 23 locations that serve more than 7,000 people each year
- Nine residential community corrections treatment centers
- Facilities range from 22-person capacity to 150-person capacity
- No secure, locked-down facilities
- Two co-ed facilities



Community Corrections Population



Agency Purpose and Commitment

Our **purpose** is to serve individuals and families by providing effective programs and services that foster personal responsibility and healthy lifestyles resulting in safer communities for all.

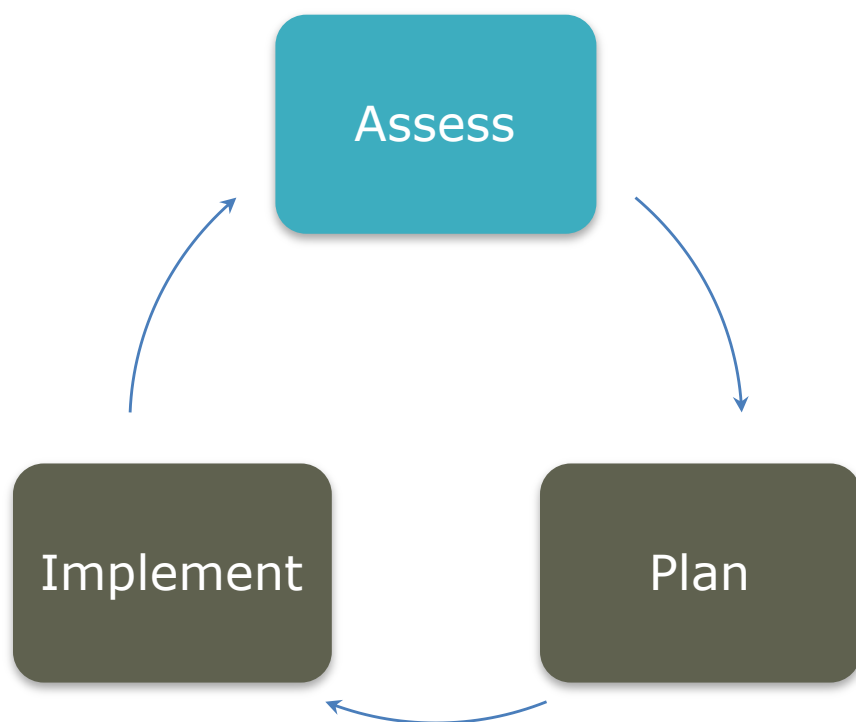
We are **committed** to doing the best job we can of serving the individuals entrusted to our care.

Alvis House's PREA Philosophy

The agency **does not tolerate** any form of discrimination and/or sexual harassment toward clients or staff.

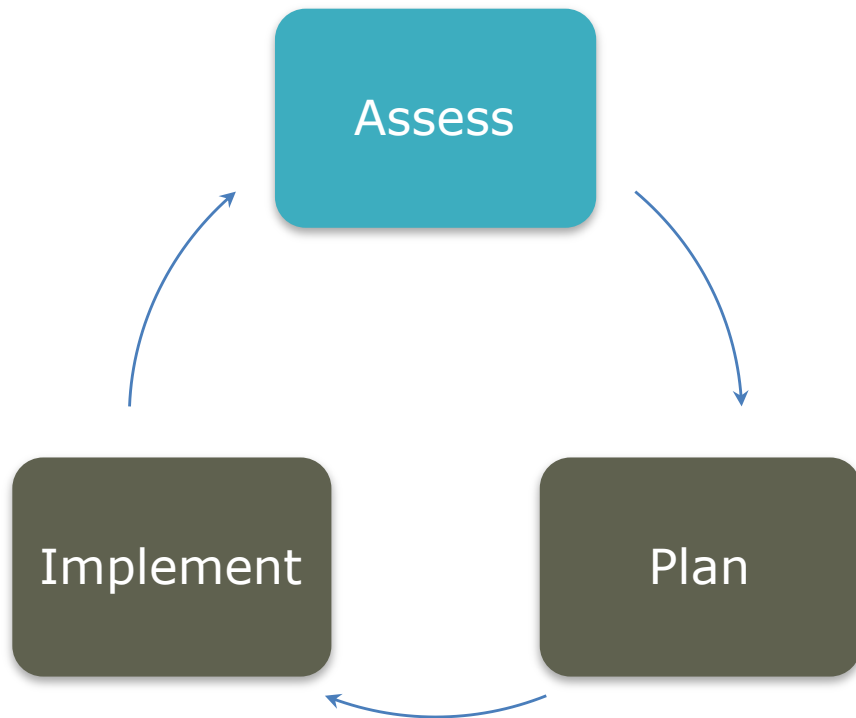
At Alvis House, we view compliance with PREA as a **moral obligation**, not just a legal one.

PREA Implementation



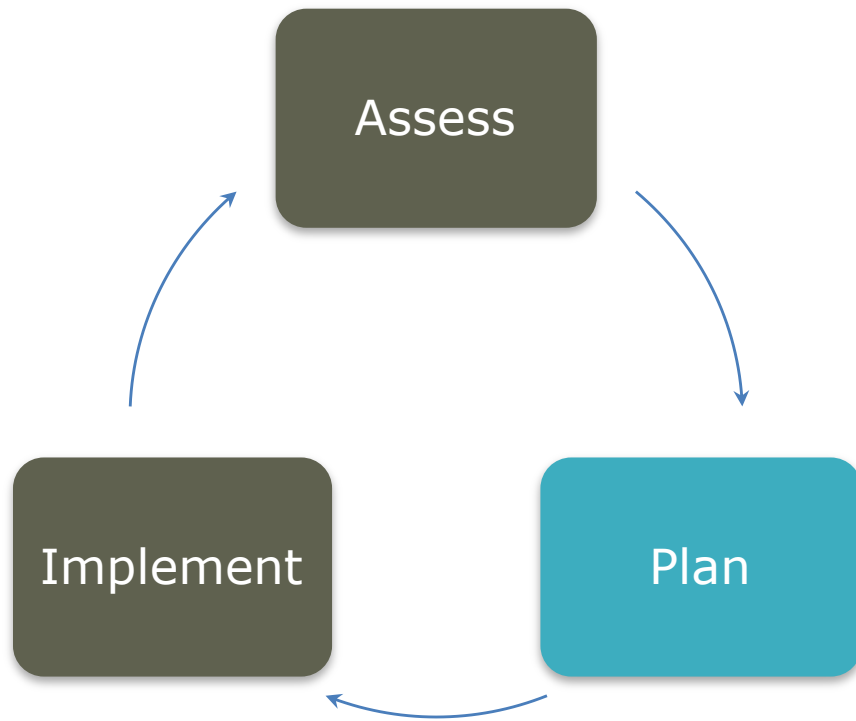
- Conducted a comprehensive review of current policies / procedures, training materials, etc. in light of the proposed PREA standards to identify needs and structures to build upon
- Staff from various areas participated in assessment

PREA Implementation



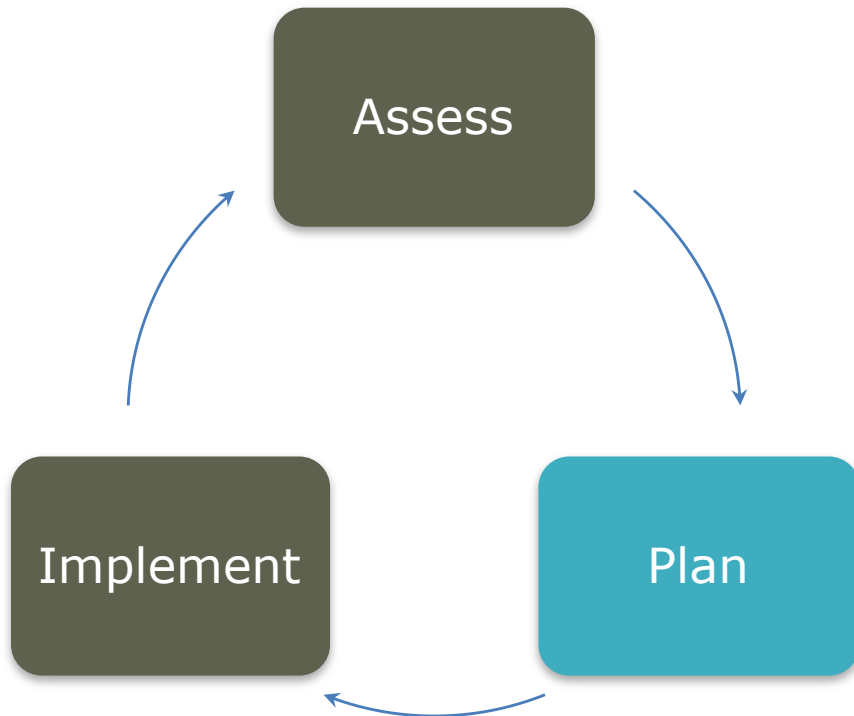
- Reviewed existing contracts, agreements
- Commitment from organizational leaders
- Determined optimal means to ensure clients receive information upon admission and while in the program
- Evaluated physical layout of facilities, identify vulnerable areas
- Examined existing staff positions and internal team structures

PREA Implementation



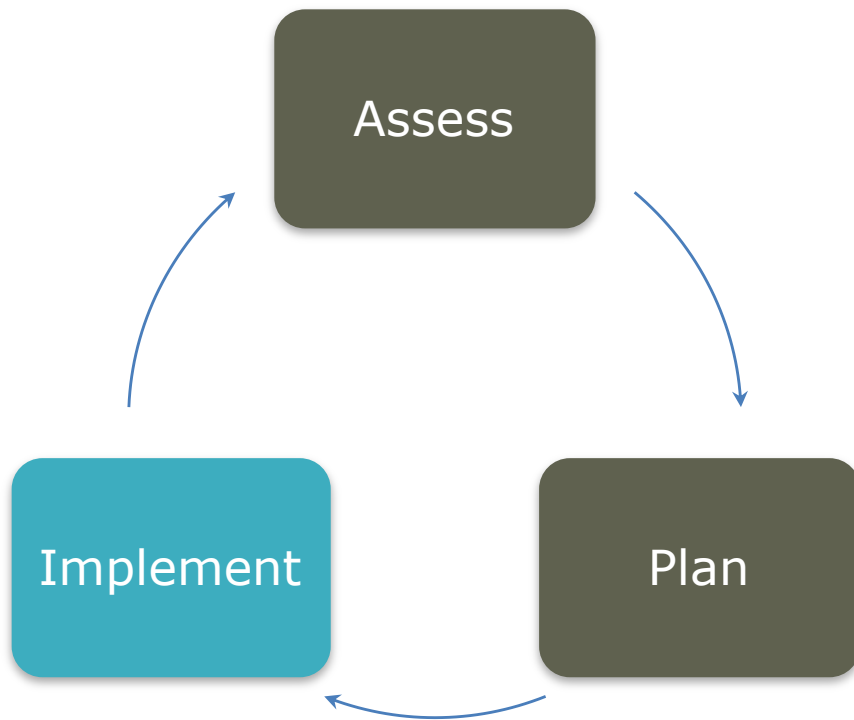
- Named PREA Coordinator (point person for readiness)
- Communicated the importance of meeting PREA standards with staff
- Established goals, objectives, and timelines for PREA implementation based on assessment, involving staff from multiple areas
- Developed PREA master compliance document

PREA Implementation



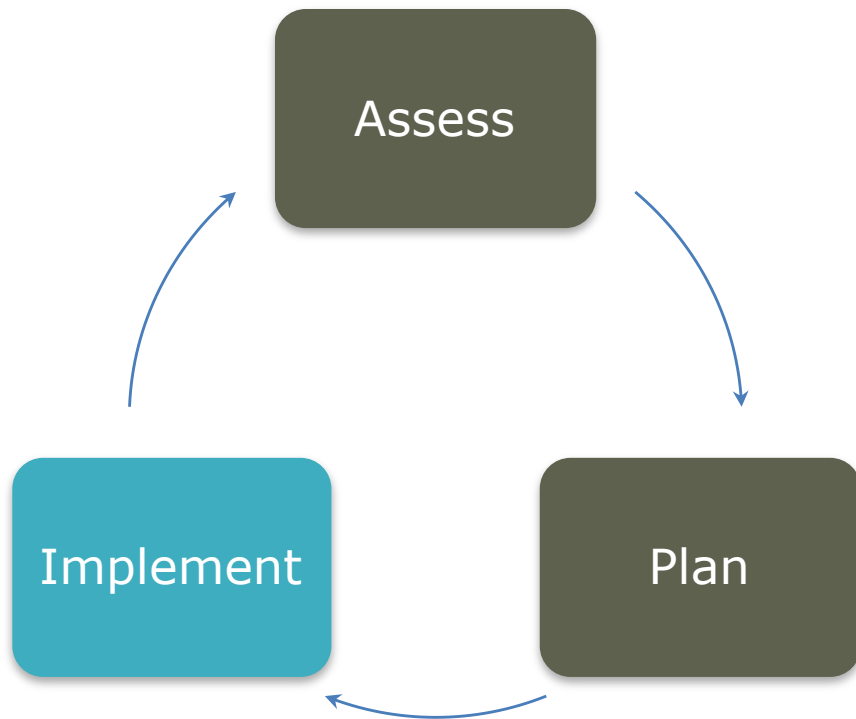
- Adapted existing **external** resources (e.g., PRC, ODRC)
- Identified existing **internal** resources that can be adapted at low/no cost to comply with standards
- Identified **community** resources available at low/no cost (e.g., mental health and medical care)
- Identified items not otherwise available that will require the agency to **make expenditures** or **enter into contracts**

PREA Implementation



- Walk the walk and talk the talk
- Test the reporting methods to ensure your agency is getting the data needed

Client Care



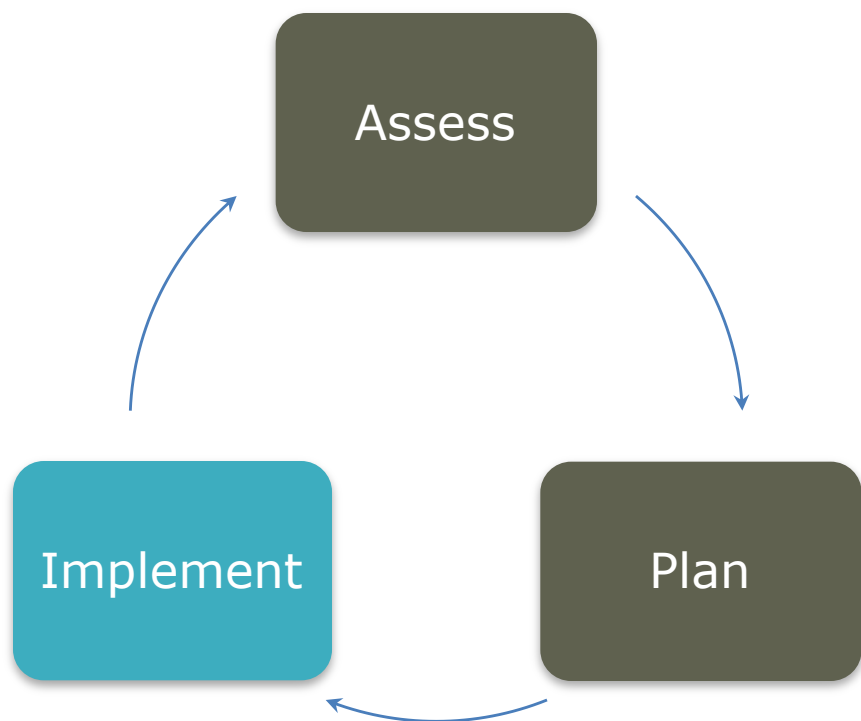
- Clients assessed for risk of being a victim or a perpetrator
- Clients provided with sexual abuse prevention materials at intake
- Additional education takes place during the program
- Education is tailored to client's level of comprehension

Staff Training



- New staff training includes: PREA overview, Code of Ethics, client rights, sexual abuse/misconduct, interpersonal relations, etc.
- Ongoing "Back to Basics" is a review & discussion of policies and procedures during each week's staff meeting
- Staff development department provides training in all areas of client-focused services, programming, and policies and procedures

Staff Training



Train, Train, Train: The Basics

- How to recognize and report abuse and a hostile work place, and when to call law enforcement
- Client education about sexual harassment/abuse
- Provide means for clients to report abuse/harassment

Train, Train, Train: Advanced

- Client Assistance Team (CAT) and Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) training
- Conducting an internal investigation and/or post-incident review

Reporting



Alvis House PREA Teams

CAT

Client Assistance Teams

Clinical staff

Responds to other types of crises

SART

Sexual Assault Response Team

Sexual Abuse Incident Review

Procedure Review

Policy Review

Lessons Learned

- Avoid a PREA bureaucracy
- Utilize existing resources
- Do not anticipate extensive costs
- Focus on culture change

Questions?

We will now take questions from our participants. Please send those to Allison Hastings through Private Chat or via email at ahastings@vera.org, and we will ask them on your behalf.

For More Information

For more information about the National PREA Resource Center, visit www.prearesourcecenter.org

Ask questions at info@prearesourcecenter.org

Michela Bowman
PRC Co-Director
mbowman@nccdglobal.org

Jenni Trovillion
PRC Co-Director
jtrovillion@nccdglobal.org

Tara Graham
Sr. Program Specialist
tgraham@nccdglobal.org