

## ***PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT OF 2003***

*During your stay here at Union House, we want to provide a safe environment as you make your transition back into the community. Therefore, there is a **ZERO** tolerance for sexual abuse and sexual harassment by staff or clients. This mean that no one is ever allowed to make sexual comments or gestures to one another, this includes staff and clients. No one is to feel pressure or forced to engage in any kind of sexual activity, including touching or having sex.*

*If any of these things happen to you or to someone else, tell a staff member you trust right away or fill out a complaint form/grievance and give to the Program Director or a trusted staff member right away. Your grievance will be investigated and actions will be taken to protect you.*

*We will not share information in regards to your complaint with anyone other than the people who can resolve the matter.*

### **SEXUAL ABUSE:**

*Includes any of the following acts, by another resident, staff member, volunteer or contractor that the resident does not consent or is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to refuse.*

- *Contact between the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight.*
- *Contact between the mouth and penis*
- *Contact between the mouth and any body part which has the intent to arouse, abuse or gratify sexual desire.*
- *Penetration of the anus: however slight by a hand, finger, or object or another instrument.*
- *Any other intentional touching directly or through the clothing of the genitalia, anus, inner thigh or the buttocks of another person excluding a contact by medical personnel.*
- *Any attempt, threat or request by another to engage in the activities listed above.*
- *Any display to a resident of uncovered genitals or buttocks.*
- *Voyeurism- which means an invasion of privacy of a resident by a contractor, volunteer or staff member unrelated to official duties such as peering at a resident in the shower or on the toilet requiring a resident to expose his buttocks or genitals taking images of a resident's naked body or performing bodily functions.*

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT:**

- *Repeated and unwelcomed sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by another resident, staff member, volunteer or contractor directed towards another.*
- *Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a resident by another resident, staff member, volunteer or contractor including demeaning references to gender, sexual suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.*

## **WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSULTED**

- *Get to a safe place*
- *Even if you want to cleanup immediately after the assault, it is important to save the evidence.*
- *Do not use the bathroom, brush your teeth, shower or change your clothing.*
- *Report it, even if you don't have any evidence. It does not matter when the assault happened.*
- *You may talk to someone in person, drop a note under the door of the Program Director or have a third person contact staff. It does not matter, just tell someone.*
- *You can call the **SEXUAL ABUSECRISIS SERVICES HOTLINE OR/CENTER FOR FAMILY JUSTICE** at 1-203-384-9559 OR 203-333-2233. This line can be used by anyone who wishes to report a sexual assault.*

*If you are a victim of sexual assault or you suspect someone else has been sexually abused or involved in sexual misconduct, you **NEED** to report it. A thorough and impartial investigation has to be conducted.*

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT IS AGAINST THE LAW**

*Union House is committed to your safety and the safety of its staff. Sexual assault compromises everyone's safety.*