



## EFFECTIVE SYSTEM INNOVATIONS

January 15, 2020

Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center (WJRC)  
26 Woodside Drive East  
Colchester, VT 05446

**RE:** Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) - Final Audit Findings Report

To Mr. Jay Simons,

The accompanying report includes the feedback you have provided. I am pleased to inform you that the **Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center (WJRC) has achieved full compliance with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards.** The dedication exhibited by you and your team as well as by the State of Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) agency has resulted in a number of successes during the corrective action period. These achievements are detailed in the attached "Final Auditor's Summary Report."

Among the many noteworthy activities implemented in the past three months are:

- Revising several policies to support your existing practices and to provide more clear guidance on the facility's coordinated response plan;
- Adopting the practice of documenting how vulnerability risk information is used to make placement decisions;
- Ensuring all interns, contractors, and staff acknowledge their understanding of the PREA training through written signature;
- Clarifying expectations regarding how unannounced rounds should be conducted by communicating this information verbally and through written memo to designated staff; and
- Developing an Excel spreadsheet to track all variables required in the U.S. Department of Justice Survey of Sexual Victimization.

The auditor commends the Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center (WJRC) and the State of Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) agency for its dedication to the PREA standards. You have done a tremendous job. On behalf of youth, families, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) I thank you for ensuring youth are safe while in the care of your program.

Sincerely,

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