

# KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia



## Annual Assessment of Progress in Addressing Sexual Abuse

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June 2023

## **2022-2023 Annual Assessment of KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia Progress in Addressing Sexual Abuse**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003, 42 U.S.C. 15601 et Seq., regulations that adopt national standards for the detection, prevention, reduction and punishment of prison rape. The finalized PREA standards were released on August 20, 2012, with an implementation date of August 2013. **Pursuant to 115.88 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia is required to:**

- (a) Review data collected and aggregated in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and trainings including by:
  - (1) Identifying problem areas;
  - (2) Taking corrective action on an ongoing basis; and
  - (3) Preparing an annual report of findings and corrective actions for KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia.
- (b) Such report shall include a comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years and shall provide as assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
- (c) KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia reports shall be approved by the agency head and made readily available to the public through its website or, if it does not have one, through other means.
- (d) KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia may redact specific materials from the reports when publication would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of a facility, but must indicate the nature of the materials redacted.

### **Data Collection:**

During the calendar year from July 1, 2022 through June 30 2023, KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia collected the referrals for investigation into allegations in order to report findings to the Department of Juvenile Justice for their annual Survey of Sexual Violence. The data received is the basis for this section of the report.

### **Client to Client Sexual Abuse**

KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia defines sexual abuse of a client by another client as any of the following acts:

- (1) Contact between the penis and vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva or anus;
- (3) Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object or other instrument;

- (4) Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation.

From July 2022 through June 2023, KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia, had zero (0) substantiated incidents of **Client to Client Sexual Abuse**.

### **Client to Client Sexual Harassment**

PREA defines Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment as repeated unwelcomed sexual advances, request for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one youth directed toward another youth. From July 2022 through June 2023, KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia, received zero (0) substantiated incidents of **Client on Client Sexual Harassment**.

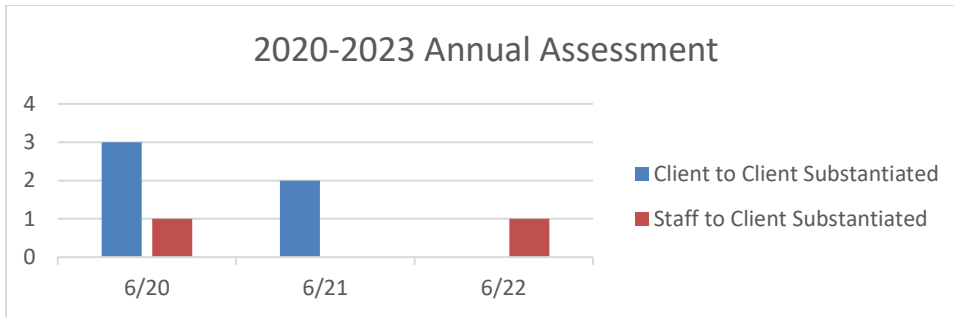
### **Associate to Client Sexual Abuse**

KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia defines sexual abuse of a client by an associate/volunteer as any of the following acts:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and penis, vulva or anus;
- (3) Contact between the mouth and any body part where the associate, vendor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire.
- (4) Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object or other instrument that is unrelated to official duties or where the associate, vendor, volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire;
- (5) Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh or the buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or where the associate, vendor or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse or gratify sexual desire;
- (6) Any attempt, threat or request by an associate, vendor or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks or breast in the presence of a client, and
- (7) Voyeurism by an associate, vendor or volunteer.

From July 2022 through June 2023, KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia had one (1) substantiated allegation for Associate to Client Sexual Abuse.

1. A Staff to Client Voyeur Sexual Harassment incident occurred on 08/17/2022 as determined by the Department of Juvenile Justice. DJJ client reported to staff that he and a staff member had been in a relationship since December 2021, up until three months ago.



**Analysis/Corrective Action:**

The current data analysis from July 2022 through June 2023 reflects a decrease in the number of sexual incidents that were substantiated during the previous (2021-2022) reporting period. A Corrective Action Plan completed by KidsPeace was submitted to and approved by the Department of Juvenile Justice following the 8/17/2022 incident of staff-to-client sexual harassment.

**The 08/17/2022 substantiated Staff to Client Sexual Harassment**

**Analysis:**

Child Care workers shall be available to provide a staff to child ratio of 1:5 (staff to child ratio is subject to change when the safety is in question) during the day and night. Contractor shall provide 24-hour, 365-day supervision of all DJJ placed Youth.

**Corrective Action:**

All current Associates will be re-educated in “Therapeutic Relationships and Professional Boundaries” training. A signed acknowledgement of both of these trainings will be placed in Associate’s HR file. All current Associates will have 30 days to complete.

In addition to our established Sexual Harassment New Associate Orientation training, Associates will be required to complete the Georgia Department of Administrative Services’ Sexual Harassment Prevention Training located at direct link: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/NiVt0DDnc2s?rel=0>. All current Associates will have 30 days to complete.

All current Associates will be re-educated in KidsPeace Policy PREA Zero Tolerance GA.6406 during Unit Team Meetings. A signed acknowledgement of this Policy will be placed in Associate’s HR file.

All current Associates will be re-educated in the State of Georgia’s Statewide Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy located at <https://doas.ga.gov/human-resources-administration/board-rules-policy-and-compliance/jointly-issued-statewide-policies/sexual-harassment-prevention-policy>. A signed acknowledgement of this DJJ Policy will be placed in Associate’s HR file.

All current Associates will be re-educated in KidsPeace Georgia Standard Operating Protocol Personal Belongings-Cell Phone Usage SOP.GA.18 during Unit

Team Meetings. A signed acknowledgement of this SOP will be placed in Associate's HR file.

All current Associates will be re-educated in KidsPeace Policy Social Media HR.CORP.513 during Unit Team Meetings. A signed acknowledgement of this SOP will be placed in Associate's HR file.

**Summary:**

It is our responsibility and part of our mission to continue to give hope, help and healing to children, adults and those who love them. KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia's vision is to help people in need overcome challenges and transform their lives by providing emotional and physical healthcare and educational services in an atmosphere of teamwork, compassion and creativity. This could not be achieved without the collective efforts among associates, vendors, volunteers and clients at KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia. Each one needs to understand their roles and responsibilities in reporting and preventing sexual violence.

KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia remains committed to taking corrective actions to comply with all Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards. KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia created the zero-tolerance policy to demonstrate its "zero tolerance" for sexual abuse at our facility. KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia training curriculum was established to incorporate these policies/standards and to ensure that all KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia Associates, vendors and volunteers are not only made aware of the policies/procedures, but are instructed on the proper protocol in the event of a sexual incident.

It's the hope of KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia that by demonstrating our belief in practicing a zero-tolerance policy for sexual abuse, sexual misconduct and/or sexual harassment in our facility, that we will continue to work toward and achieve a zero account of sexual incidents in our facility

*Mallarie Crews*

*07/14/2023*

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Mallarie Crews, Admissions Coordinator  
PREA Compliance Officer  
KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia

Date:

*Gary Russell*

*07/14/2023*

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Gary Russell, On-site Program Director  
KidsPeace National Centers of Georgia

Date: