

PREA Annual Report

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape. (Prison Rape Elimination Act, 2003.) In addition to creating a mandate for significant research from the Bureau of Justice Statistics and through the National Institute of Justice, funding through the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the National Institute of Corrections supported major efforts in many State correctional, juvenile detention, community corrections, and jail systems.

The act also created the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission and charged it with developing draft standards for the elimination of prison rape. Those standards were published in June 2009, and were turned over to the Department of Justice for review and passage as a final rule. That final rule became effective August 20, 2012

In 2010, the Bureau of Justice Assistance funded the National PREA Resource Center to continue to provide federally funded training and technical assistance to states and localities, as well as to serve as a single-stop resource for leading research and tools for all those in the field working to come into compliance with the federal standards.

Volunteers of America RRC has a zero-tolerance policy toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in our facility, under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) 2003. We will enforce all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to inmate sexual misconduct. All reports will be fully investigated, which includes both allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, by Volunteers of America and the local Sheriff’s Office investigative Division.

Volunteers of America’s continued commitment to maintain an organizational culture of zero-tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and harassment through annual staff training, contractor and volunteer training, notification to all professional visitors, and inmate education is supported by comparing the final statistics for the previous two years. The supporting graphs show from 2019 to 2020 the number of allegations of staff on Inmate sexual abuse has remained the same with zero allegations of sexual abuse and three unfounded allegations of sexual harassment in 2019. The number of allegations of inmate-on-inmate sexual abuse has remained at zero allegations of abuse and zero allegations of harassment the last two years. For five consecutive years, there have been zero substantiated allegations of staff on inmate sexual abuse and zero substantiated allegations of inmate-on-inmate sexual abuse at Volunteers of America. In the past five year, one out of six allegations of staff on inmate sexual harassment has been substantiated and one out of two allegations of inmate on inmate sexual harassment has been substantiated.

Volunteers of America redacts all personal identifies (name of victim, date of birth, sex of victim, date reported, and reporting party) when reporting annual statistics.

2020 Statistics

Inmate on Inmate Complaint	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment
Unfounded Allegations	0	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0
Substantiated Allegations	0	0

Staff on Inmate Complaint	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment
Unfounded Allegations	0	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0
Substantiated Allegations	0	0

2019 Statistics

Inmate on Inmate Complaint	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment
Unfounded Allegations	0	0
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0
Substantiated Allegations	0	0

Staff on Inmate Complaint	Sexual Abuse	Sexual Harassment
Unfounded Allegations	0	3
Unsubstantiated Allegations	0	0
Substantiated Allegations	0	0