

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA) ANNUAL REPORT 2019



NORTHWEST REGIONAL RE-ENTRY CENTER

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Background:

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (**PREA**), a federal law enacted in 2003, was created to eliminate sexual abuse in confinement. In addition to providing federal funding for research, programs, training, and technical assistance to address the issue, the legislation mandated the development of national standards.

PREA was signed into federal law in September 2003, and the final rules and standards were published on August 20, 2012. Between 2003 and 2012, extensive research and collaboration took place to identify the extent of sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment taking place in federal, state, county, city and tribal confinement facilities for both adults and juveniles. Research also identified the scope of the issue, and standards were developed to guide facilities to adopt a “zero-tolerance policy” toward sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The standards have three clear goals: 1) prevent 2) detect and 3) respond to sexual abuse. Furthermore, the standards provide a consistent way to measure the “zero-tolerance policy” by providing strategies to improve prevention, detection, responsiveness and data collection of sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Response by NWRRC:

When the PREA standards were finalized, NWRRC took the following immediate actions:

- Identified a PREA Coordinator
- Communicated our “zero-tolerance” policy for sexual assault, sexual abuse and sexual harassment
- Developed policies and procedures consistent with the national PREA standards
- Assessed our physical layout and camera placement
- Reviewed our staffing levels
- Identified and implemented training and materials to educate residents and staff

At NWRRC, we place a high priority on ensuring the safety and security of residents and staff of at all times. We conduct ongoing evaluations of our PREA program and look for ways to improve. Annually, after gathering data for this report, we compare it to previous years and look for patterns.

2019 PREA AUDIT:

The PREA standards require that each community facility is audited every three years. NWRRC received their first audit in 2016 and completed its most recent audit in July 2019. We were again found to be in compliance with all of the PREA standards. The full PREA Audit report has been posted on the NWRRC website.

The below areas were corrected during the post-audit phase:

- Referral to local police for criminal investigations posted on website
- Completion of intake screenings within the first 72 hours of a resident’s arrival
- Completion of sexual abuse incident reviews with 30 days, unless the allegation is determined to be unfounded
- Annual report now includes comparison of current year’s data with those of prior years

2019 NWRRC PREA Reports

Date	Type of Report*	Location (Facility)	Type of Investigation	Date Completed	Outcome
2/12	R:R SA	NWRRC	Administrative	2/12/19	Unfounded
2/24	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	2/26/19	Substantiated
2/28	R:R SAB	NWRRC	Administrative	3/1/19	Unsubstantiated
5/30	R:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	6/6/19	Unsubstantiated
7/24	R:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	7/29/19	Unsubstantiated
9/4	S:R SA	NWRRC	Administrative	9/10/19	Unfounded
9/5	R:R SA	NWRRC	Administrative	9/7/19	Unsubstantiated
9/26	R:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	10/2/19	Substantiated
9/26	R:R SH	NWRRC	Administrative	10/2/19	Substantiated
10/8	R:R SA	NWRRC	Administrative	10/18/19	Unsubstantiated

*R:R	Resident on Resident	SH	Sexual Harassment
R:S	Resident on Staff	SAB	Sexual Abuse
S:R	Staff on Resident	SA	Sexual Assault
		SSM	Staff Sexual Misconduct

Total PREA Reports	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
2014	2	Both occurred at other facilities. Referred for investigations	
2015	9*	3	2
2016	5	2	1
2017	3	2	1
2018	6 **	2	2
2019	10	3	2

*Three referred to other institutions for investigations. Outcome unknown

**One referred to Sheridan for investigation. Outcome unknown