



PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT: 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio is dedicated to providing evidenced based residential reentry services to clients through a safe and secure environment and meeting the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 at all of our program sites. This report is a summary of the agency's efforts in PREA compliance. By examining the collection and aggregation of agency data, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of sexual abuse detection, prevention, and response.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Purpose	1
Standards	1
Publications	1
Aggregated Data	2
Comparative Data Analysis	3
Problem Areas	4
Corrective Actions	5
Conclusion	6
Company Information	6

Purpose

STANDARDS

In compliance with PREA national standards §115.88 and §115.89, this document serves to satisfy the reporting and publication of findings, to include:

1. Review and aggregate incident-based sexual abuse data annually in order to improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training, including:
 - a. Identifying problem areas
 - b. Taking corrective action on an on-going basis
 - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings
2. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years. Provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
3. Publish the annual report on the Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio website for each facility, as well as for the agency as a whole.

PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the publication of the annual report located on the Agency's website (www.voago.org), the report is available through the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections website.

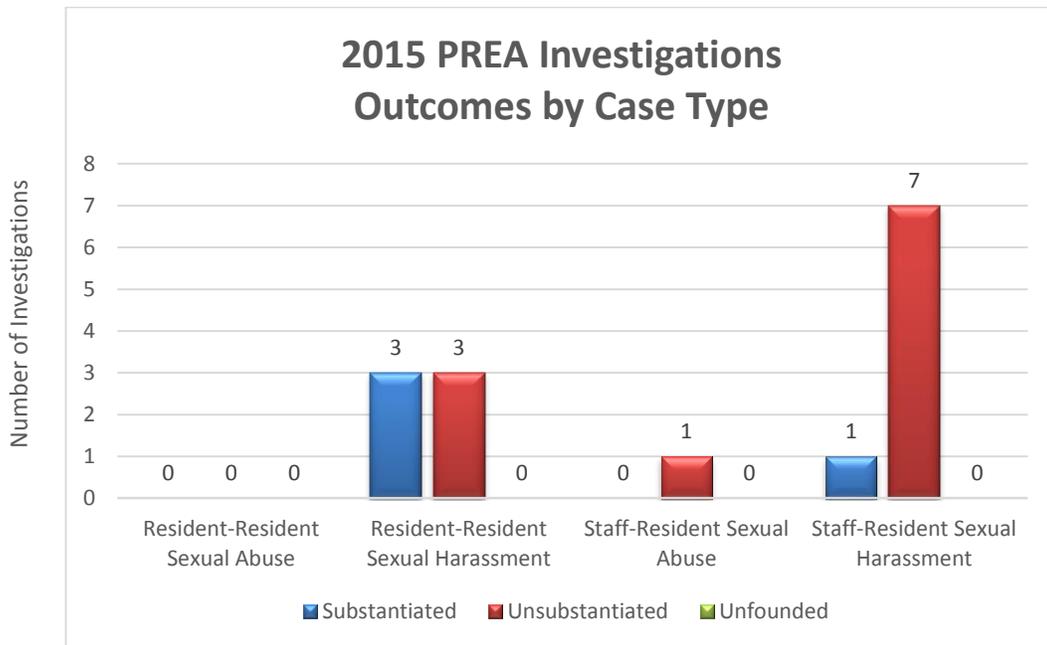
Aggregated Data

The Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio collects data from the referrals for investigation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, both resident on resident and staff on resident incidents. The data in this report contains aggregated data pursuant to the *Survey of Sexual Violence* form.

All allegations are entered and tracked through a secure electronic database, the *PREA Incident Report Log*. For the purposes of this report, data collected will only be from CY 2015.

The following graph depicts the number of sexual abuse and sexual harassment cases of resident on resident and staff on resident incidents investigated. Data is from all four (4) reentry program sites. There were a total of fifteen reports, and four were substantiated (three resident-to-resident sexual harassment and one staff-to-resident sexual harassment).

Figure 1.1

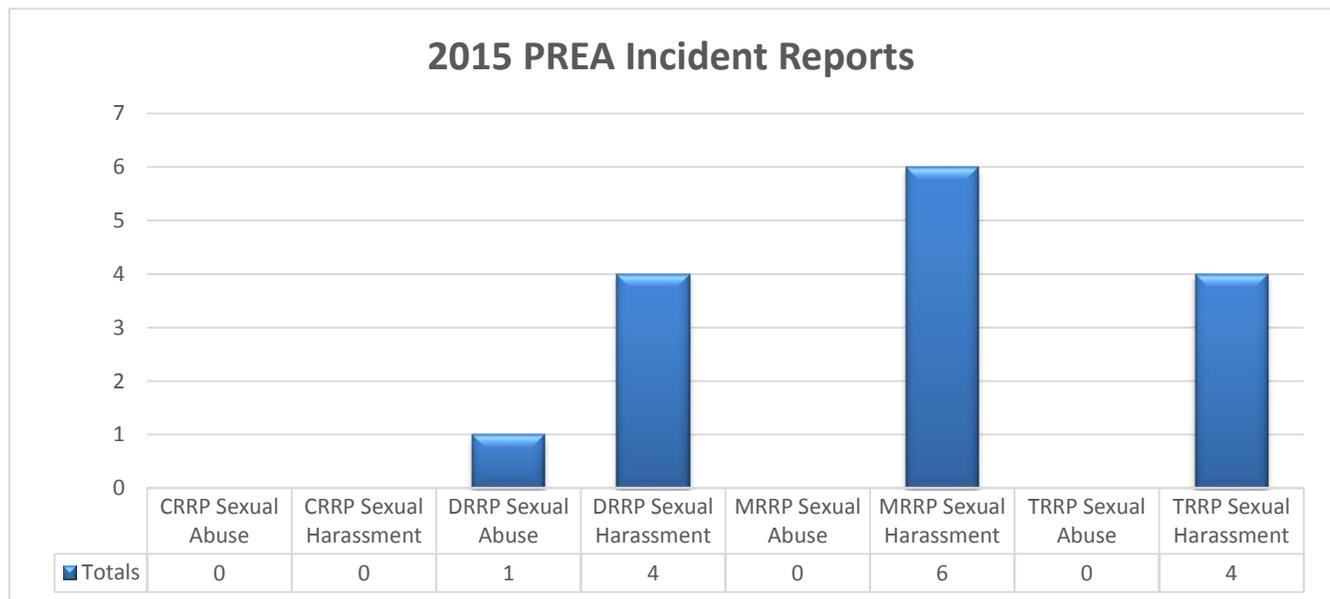


Comparative Data Analysis

The following graph (Figure 2.1) represents a comparison between our four reentry program sites for CY 2015 of reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. These are all the reports received regardless of disposition.

Based upon the reports, Mansfield Residential Reentry Program had the most reports and investigations, but only two of those were substantiated. The Dayton program site had the only report of sexual abuse during this reporting period, but the report was unsubstantiated. The Cincinnati program site had no reports during 2015.

Figure 2.1



Legend:

- CRRP – Cincinnati Residential Reentry Program
- DRRP – Dayton Residential Reentry Program
- MRRP – Mansfield Residential Reentry Program
- TRRP – Toledo Residential Reentry Program

Problem Areas

Across all four residential reentry programs, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio served 1420 residents in 2015. The number of reported PREA incidents (n= 15) is not disproportionate to the number of residents served in a twelve-month period. The Mansfield program site had the majority of the reports and investigations which may indicate a cognizant vigilance to the detection, prevention and response of sexual abuse or harassment or a need for additional training.

The agency has a limited number of PREA investigators. This puts the burden of responsibility and time on to a select group of staff. Despite timely reporting of the incidents and safety of the residents secured, a trained investigator is not always available immediately. Thus there can be further delay in conducting the investigation and arriving at a disposition. Further training opportunities will need to be offered in the upcoming year.

Corrective Actions

In review of the aggregated data from CY 2015, the majority of reports were of staff to resident incidents. Although only one of these were substantiated, it appears that additional training of staff interpersonal communication and behaviors with residents is warranted. Training should include all staff, and target specifically the Resident Supervisor staff who have the most consistent contact with the residents. Additional staff training on what constitutes sexual harassment and response is ~~also~~ needed.

Corrective actions taken at the agency level include:

- Continued annual review and revision of agency policy and procedure
- Selection and training of additional investigations, to cover all program site locations
- Additional training scheduled for all staff / refresher training for current investigators
- Implement a new internal notification procedure to alert the PREA Coordinator of all allegations in a timely manor

Conclusion

The Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio is committed to a continual and progressive culture wherein clients are free from sexual abuse or assault and sexual harassment. By taking action to implement the changes identified, and meet the requirements of the PREA standards, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio can maintain a safe environment for our clients.

Stacey Seif
PREA Coordinator
March, 2016

Company Information

Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio
8225 Brecksville Road, Suite 206
Brecksville, Ohio 44141
Tel 440-717-1500
Fax 440-717-1508
voago.org