



Volunteers
of America®

OHIO & INDIANA

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT: 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana 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 Ohio & Indiana Residential Reentry Program's efforts in PREA compliance. By examining the collection and aggregation of agency data, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of sexual abuse detection, prevention, and response.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

Purpose	1
Standards	1
Publication	1
Aggregated Data	2
Comparative Data Analysis	3
Annual Review	4
Corrective Actions & Problem Areas	6
Conclusion	7
Company Information	7

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 Ohio & Indiana website for each facility, as well as for the agency as a whole.

PUBLICATION

The publication of the annual report is located on the Agency's website:

<https://www.voahin.org/services/criminal-justice-reentry/>

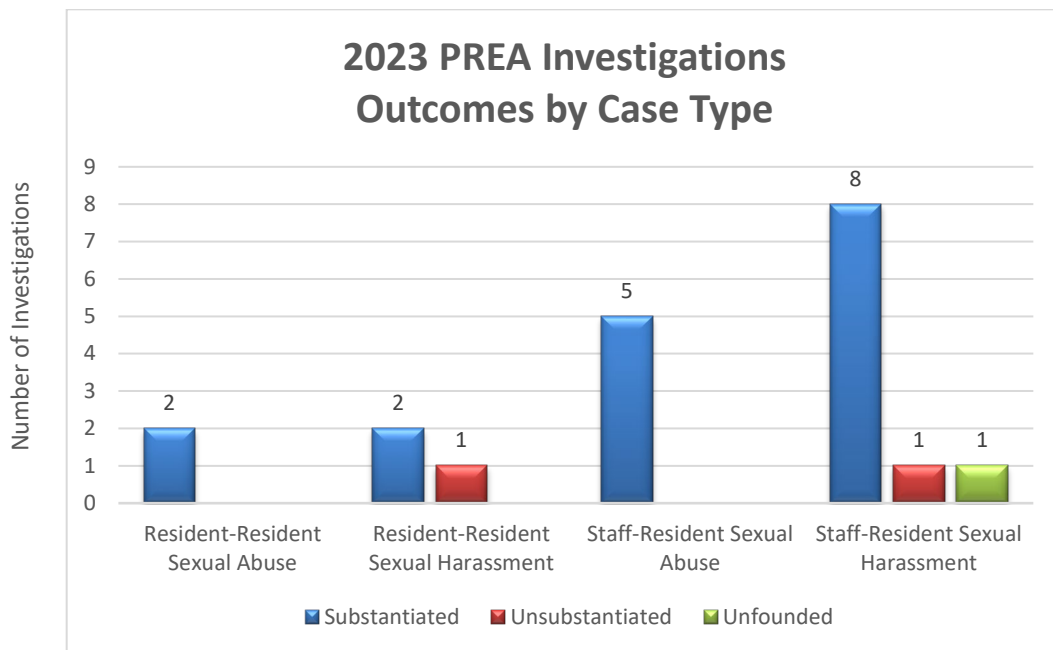
Aggregated Data

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana 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 internal electronic database, the *PREA Incident Report Log*. For the purposes of this report, the data collected is limited to calendar year (CY) 2023.

The following graph depicts the number of sexual abuse and sexual harassment cases of resident on resident and staff on resident PREA incidents investigated at six (6) residential reentry program sites across Ohio and Indiana. There was a total of twenty (20) PREA reports. Seventeen (17) of those cases were substantiated, two (2) were unsubstantiated and one (1) was unfounded. This is a decrease in total cases from the twenty-seven (27) total cases investigated in CY2022, but an overall increase in substantiated cases.

Figure 1.1

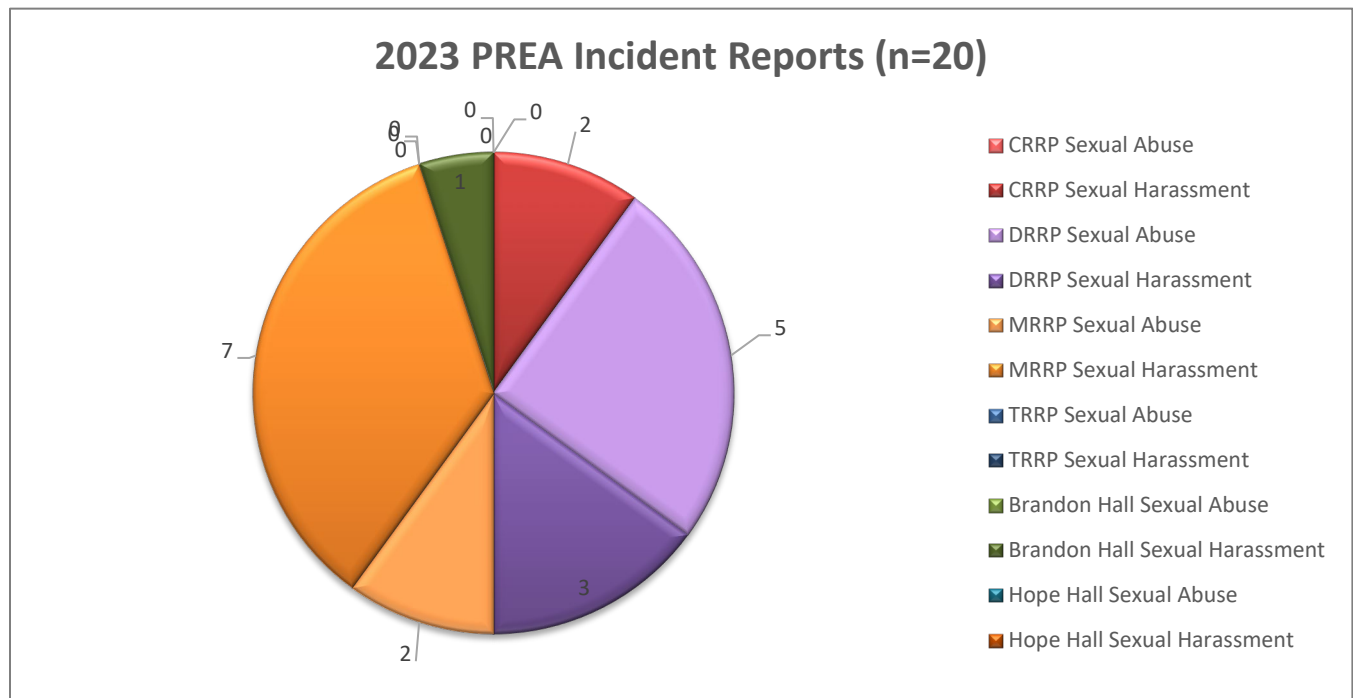


Comparative Data Analysis

The following graph (Figure 2.1) represents a comparison between Volunteers of America’s four reentry program sites in Ohio and two reentry programs in Indiana for CY 2023. The data includes all reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment received regardless of disposition.

Mansfield RRP investigated nine reports, six of which were determined to be substantiated. Dayton RRP had eight reports, and all were substantiated. Cincinnati RRP investigated two reports, both of which were determined to be substantiated. Indianapolis RRP investigated one report and it was substantiated. Toledo RRP and Evansville RRP investigated zero reports in CY2023.

Figure 2.1



Program Legend: CRRP – Cincinnati Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 DRRP – Dayton Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 MRRP – Mansfield Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 TRRP – Toledo Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 Hope Hall - Evansville, Indiana
 Brandon Hall – Indianapolis, Indiana

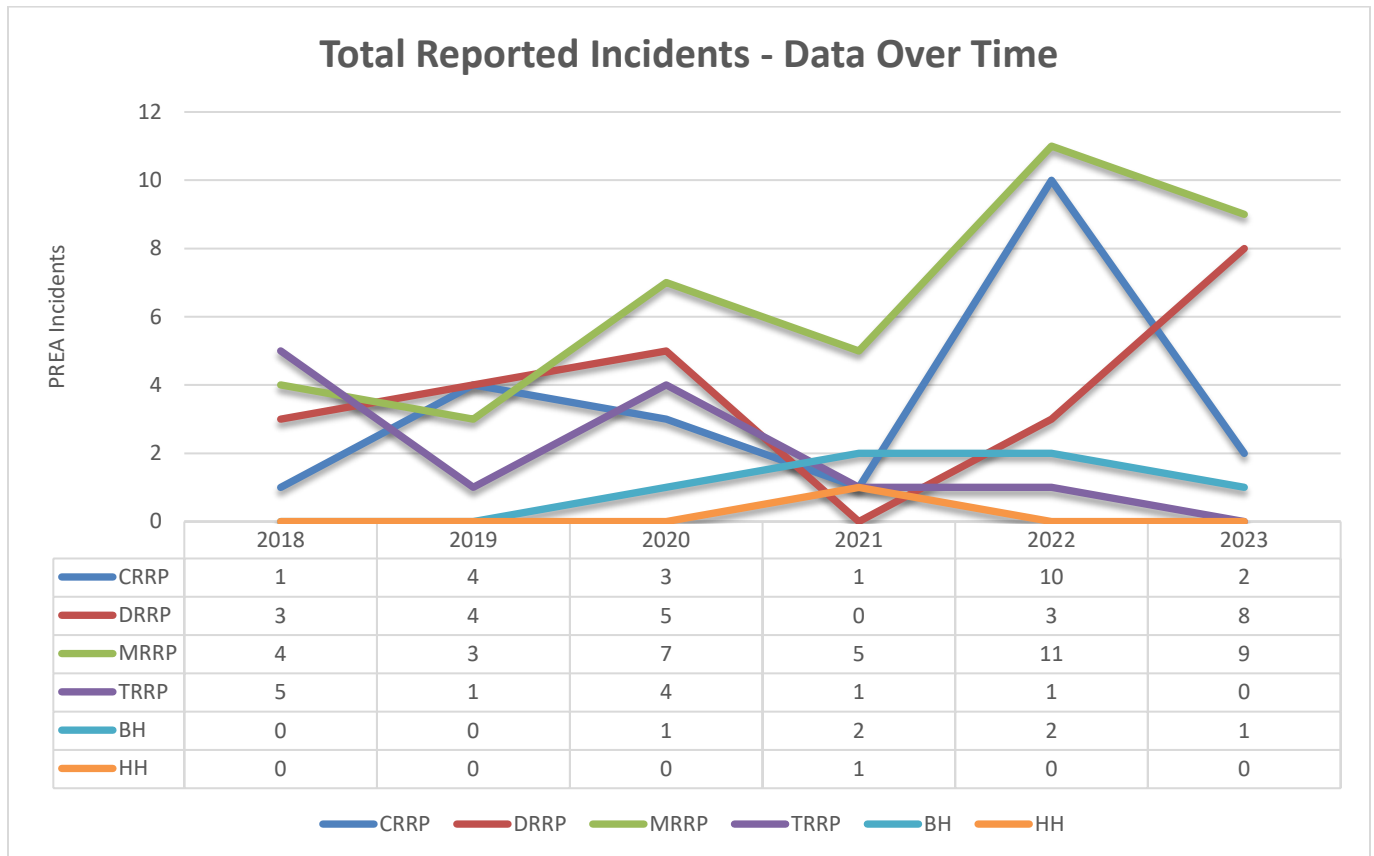
Annual Review

Across all four Ohio residential reentry programs, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana (VOAOHIN) served 2257 residents in CY2023. VOAHOIN served 403 more residents in Ohio during CY2023 than in CY2022. Indiana residential reentry programs served a total of 445 residents in CY2023, 89 less than in CY2022. The number of reported PREA incidents (n=20) is not disproportionate to the number of residents served in a twelve-month period, however it was a decrease in total cases from CY2022.

In review of the aggregated data from CY2023, reports included both resident-to-resident incidents and staff-to-resident incidents, with a higher total number of staff involved cases. Staff across programs would benefit from additional training related to understanding sexual harassment within the PREA definitions as well as continued training on interpersonal communication and boundaries with residents. Training should include all staff, contractors, and volunteers. Additional training should target specifically the staff who have the most consistent contact with residents. Additional staff guidance is available and annual required trainings are assigned through Relias for all staff. In addition to the Relias training, an effort will be made to increase the number of in person live PREA trainings available to ensure staff competency.

The following graph (Figure 3.1) represents an annual total comparison between Volunteers of America’s six Residential Reentry programs over a period of six years. The data includes all reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment received regardless of disposition.

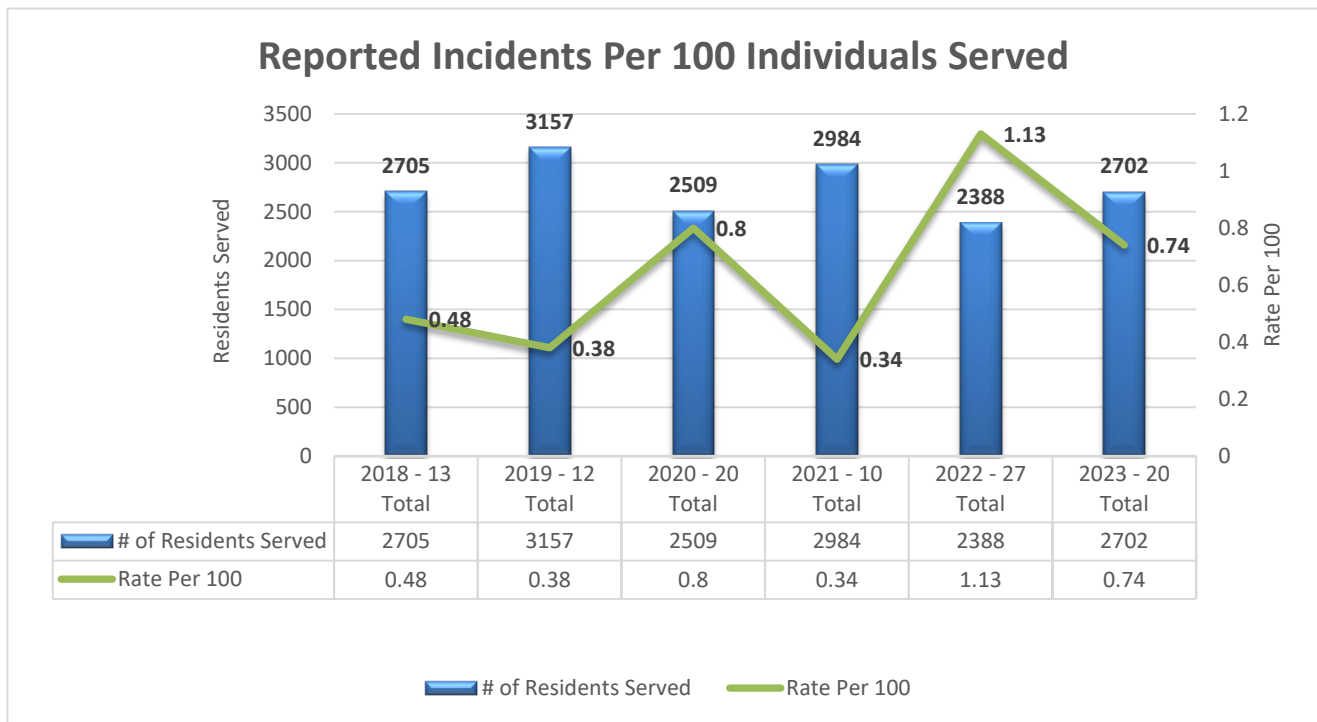
Figure 3.1



Annual Review

The following graph (Figure 3.2) represents the number of reported incidents per 100 individuals served at Volunteers of America’s six Residential Reentry programs over a period of six years.

Figure 3.2



During CY 2023 Volunteers of America has continued to ensure monitoring technology is kept up to date and in working order. Remote site surveillance and improved environmental compliance are benefits to these technologies. Hope Hall, Evansville, had some major advances and now has a total of 42 cameras (previously only 12 total). Hope Hall also added an additional control office that allows for med distribution and other security needs. They also added a new 1-way mirror window looking out towards both control offices as well as the pat down area. There are plans in CY2024 to continue updating cameras and security systems at the residential reentry facilities.

There was a training opportunity for PREA investigators in May of CY2023. Additional investigators were needed to cover both states. Eleven additional staff members were trained at that time. There are currently 25 PREA investigators across both states to begin CY2024. Continued PREA training for all staff will be offered in the upcoming year. The agency has one PREA Coordinator serving both states. Additionally, there are PREA Compliance Managers to help ensure our residential reentry programs are meeting all standards.

Corrective Actions & Problem Areas

The Cincinnati, Ohio Residential Reentry Program completed their PREA audit during CY2023. The facility was found in full compliance after a corrective action period. Dayton, Ohio and Brandon Hall, Indianapolis are the next facilities for Volunteers of America to have audited in CY2024.

Continued actions to be taken at the agency level include:

- Continued annual review and revision of agency policy and procedure
- Selection and training of additional investigators and trainers, to cover all program site locations
- Selection and training of additional victim advocates at all locations
- Training for all staff on communication and boundaries via the Relias online training system, with the addition of live trainings when needed.
- Continued review of PREA Training modules assigned to all staff in the Relias online training system
- Training review for all modules required for Contractors and Volunteers
- Additional training, specifically for staff completing intake tasks and case managers, targeting importance of use of screening, including dorm/bed assignments and increased monitoring of vulnerable individuals
- Additional training for all site leadership on best practice and remaining audit ready at all times to ensure resident and facility safety

Conclusion

Volunteers of America of Ohio & Indiana 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 Ohio & Indiana can maintain a safe environment for our residents.



Stacey Seif
PREA Coordinator
January 2024

Company Information



John R. von Arx III
President & CEO
Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana

Indiana Office
4181 East 96th Street, Suite 280
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Ohio Office
1780 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43203

voahin.org | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)