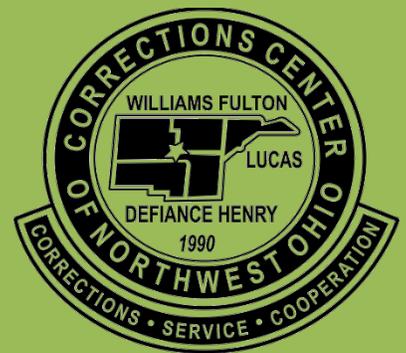


PREA Annual Report

2020



Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio

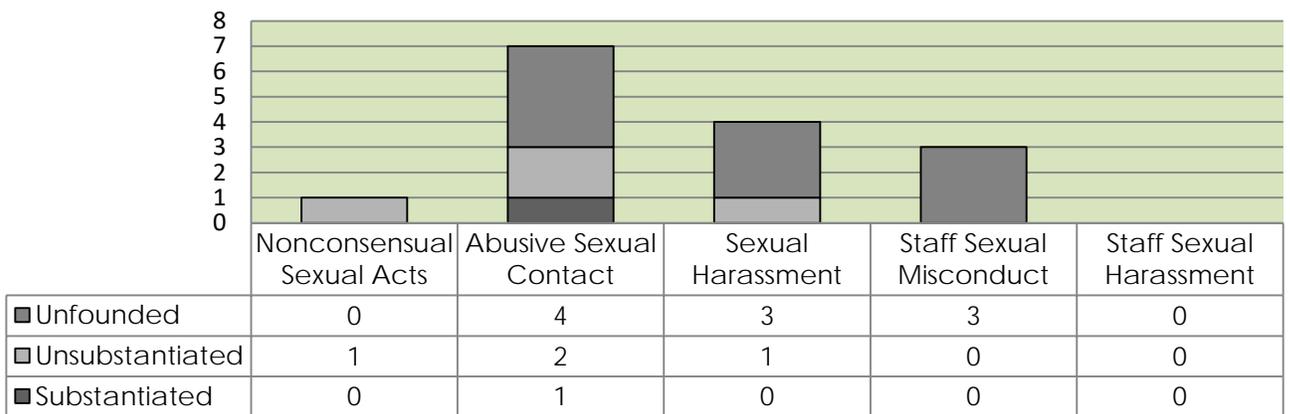
INTRODUCTION

In 2003, Congress passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act under the presidency of George W. Bush. Years of extensive research, analysis, and collaboration developed into the PREA standards set forth to implement change into prison and jail systems across the country. The Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio, more commonly known as CCNO, has been a proponent of this movement since its introduction. PREA §115.88 calls each agency to assess their internal processes regarding sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response. Essentially, it is up to each correctional operation to ensure their policies are effective in deterring and responding to instances of sexual abuse if and/or when they happen. Outlined in this report is CCNO's self-assessment on how to increase our effectiveness related to correctional sexual abuse.

DATA

Attached to this report, and also available on CCNO's website, are the PREA-related allegations and the outcomes of each investigation. CCNO saw a total of 17 reports in 2020: one (1) inmate nonconsensual sexual act, seven (7) inmate abusive sexual contact, four (4) inmate sexual harassment, and three (3) staff sexual misconduct. Although sexual harassment is included in the table, the focus of the annual report is on sexual abuse. As noted, there were 12 sexual abuse allegations in 2020; this number is up from 9 allegations in 2019. Through investigations, it was found that seven were unfounded, three were unsubstantiated, one was substantiated, and one remains open because the inmate was released and has not returned calls or responded to our letter regarding the investigation. The type of sexual abuse alleged more commonly involved inappropriate touching or voyeurism as opposed to non-consensual sexual acts, or rape as most easily understood.

2020 PREA Allegations by Type Reported & Investigation Outcome



The facility has undergone several surveillance upgrades to increase security throughout the years, and the use as well as review capability of the cameras has proven highly effective in deterring, detecting, and investigating PREA allegations. Security surveillance is consistently assessed for necessary additions at CCNO.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

After any sexual abuse investigation that is found to be either substantiated or unsubstantiated, PREA standards require an incident review meeting to discuss any corrective measures. A thorough evaluation of several aspects of each incident is conducted during these meetings. Upper level management as well as representatives from key departments are present to provide insight in their respective areas regarding each investigation.

The following is a list of specific corrective action measures adapted upon the incident review meetings:

- *No surveillance in the bathroom areas:* This was a follow-up from 2019 corrective action.

Corrective Action: CCNO leadership sought opinions and guidance from state and PREA auditors on camera surveillance with bathroom sight-lines. Both auditors gave verbal agreement and provided guidelines in order to continue to meet standards. CCNO's legal counsel reviewed this request. Additional surveillance was implemented using the suggested guidelines from the auditors after the approval from CCNO counsel.

- *Better follow-up questions following incidents may reveal more information that could have a PREA basis which could be addressed at the time of an incident as opposed to a new incarceration.*

Corrective Action: Annual PREA training was provided which covered asking questions regarding all necessary information.

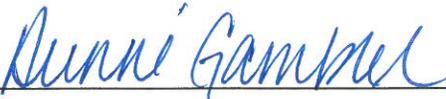
CONCLUSION

The data reviewed for 2020 was of typical substance for CCNO historically. The number of allegations had increased by one from the prior year and the investigations concluded that CCNO was compliant in response. Trends for reporting are difficult to predict, and 2020 data may not be indicative of what will emerge in 2021.

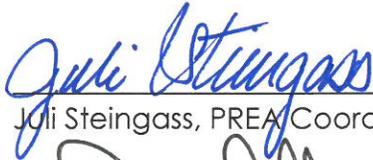
Mechanisms for consistency in responding, retaliation monitoring, and documenting that had been implemented with the change of PREA Coordinator in 2018 continue to prove helpful throughout 2020. Continued and increased training for staff and contractors is recognized as a successful deterrent for sexual abuse and harassment as well as furthering education on detection and response to PREA-related events. CCNO is committed to perpetual evaluation of our processes in order to assess weaknesses, make improvements, and implement necessary changes to remain compliant with PREA standards.

SIGNATURE

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Report Reviewed By:


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Report Approved By:


Dennis Sullivan, Executive Director

2020 Summary of Sexual Victimization at the Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio

Inmate-on-Inmate	Reported	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Total
Nonconsensual Sexual Acts	1	0	1	0	1
Abusive Sexual Contact	7	1	2	4	7
Sexual Harassment	5	0	1	3	4
Staff Sexual Misconduct	4	0	0	3	3
Staff Sexual Harassment	0	0	0	0	0
Total	17	1	4	10	15

Sexual Abuse Allegations:	12
Substantiated	1
Unsubstantiated	3
Unfounded	7
Open	1

Definitions for Aggregated Data (as outlined by the 2016 Survey of Sexual Victimization):

Inmate-on-Inmate Sexual Victimization:

A. *Nonconsensual Sexual Acts:* Sexual contact of any person without his/her consent, or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse; and contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus including penetration, however slight; or contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus; or penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument.

B. *Abusive Sexual Contact:* Sexual contact of any person without his or her consent, or of a person who is unable to consent or refuse; and intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks of any person. Excluding incidents in which the contact was incidental to a physical altercation.

C. *Sexual Harassment:* Repeated and unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one inmate directed toward another.

Staff-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse:

A. *Staff Sexual Misconduct:* any behavior or act of a sexual nature directed toward an inmate by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor or other agency representative (exclude family, friends or other visitors). Sexual relationships of a romantic nature between staff and inmates are included in this definition. Consensual or nonconsensual sexual acts include - Intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or buttocks that is unrelated to official duties or with the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire; or completed, attempted, threatened, or requested sexual acts; or occurrences of indecent exposure, invasion of privacy, or staff voyeurism for reasons unrelated to official duties or for sexual gratification.

B. *Staff Sexual Harassment:* Repeated verbal statements, comments or gestures of a sexual nature to an inmate by an employee, volunteer, contractor, official visitor, or other agency representative (exclude family, friends, or other visitors). Include - demeaning references to gender; or sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing; or repeated profane or obscene language or gestures.