

Ware Youth Center
Group Home/Treatment Program
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PREA ANNUAL REPORT

2025

This report was written in accordance with Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Standard 115.388 Data review for corrective action.

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PREA Standard 115.388

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established to address sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons confined to correctional facilities. Standard 115.388 Data Review for Corrective Action of PREA, requires that all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders review data collected and aggregated on an annual basis in order to assess and enhance the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training, including identifying problem areas; taking corrective action on an ongoing basis; and preparing an annual report of its findings and corrective actions for each facility as well as the agency as a whole.

Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program contracts with the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice for 24 Female Group Home beds and 6 female and 6 male Treatment Program beds for a total of 36 residents.

Key Terms and Definitions

NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS – unwanted contact with another resident or any contact with staff that involve contact with the penis and the vagina or anus; contact between the mouth and the penis, vagina, or anus; penetration of the anal or vaginal opening of another person by a hand, finger or other object; and rubbing of another persons' penis or vagina by a hand.

ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT – Unwanted contact with another resident or any contact with staff that involved touching of the residents' buttocks, thighs, penis, breast or vagina in a sexual way.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT – Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one resident directed toward another.

STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT – All incidents of willing and unwilling sexual contact with facility staff, and all incidents of sexual activity that involved oral, anal or vaginal penetration.

STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT – Repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a resident by a staff member, contractor or volunteer including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures.

2024-2025 Comparison of PREA Allegations

This report includes a comparison of calendar years 2024 and 2025 data on sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations and provides an assessment of Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program's progress in preventing sexual abuse and sexual harassment of its residents. This review included a review of data from all available incident reports, grievances and investigations.

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REPORTING CRITERIA

	2024	2025
Number of <i>males</i> present on December 31 st	6	4
Number of <i>males</i> admitted during the target year	14	16
Number of <i>females</i> present on December 31 st	13	15
Number of <i>females</i> admitted during the target year	61	52
Number of <i>alleged</i> resident-on-resident NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS	0	0
Number of <i>substantiated</i> resident-on-resident NONCONSENSUAL SEXUAL ACTS	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> resident-on-resident ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT	0	0
Number of <i>substantiated</i> resident-on-resident ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> resident-on-resident SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0
Number of <i>substantiated</i> resident-on-resident SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> staff-on-resident STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	0	1
Number <i>substantiated</i> staff-on-resident STAFF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT	0	0
Number of <i>alleged</i> staff-on-resident STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0
Number of <i>substantiated</i> staff-on-resident STAFF SEXUAL HARASSMENT	0	0

Comparative Analysis

In 2025, Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program had one reported incident of staff-on-resident sexual misconduct which was found to be unsubstantiated. This is an increase from 2024, where there were zero reported incidents in any category. Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program will continue its efforts in ensuring that residents, staff, volunteers and contractors are educated in the agency's Zero Tolerance policy, as well as the various methods of reporting allegations. Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program is committed to ensuring continued compliance with PREA Standards as well as the health and safety of the residents in our care. A comparative analysis of 2024 and 2025 data indicates the following:

- In 2024 and 2025, there were **zero** reported incidents of resident-on-resident nonconsensual sexual acts.
- In 2024 and 2025, there were **zero** reported incidents of resident-on-resident abusive sexual contact.
- In 2024 and 2025, there were **zero** reported incidents of resident-on-resident sexual harassment.
- In 2025, there was **one** reported incident of staff-on-resident sexual misconduct which was found to be unsubstantiated. This is an increase from 2024 where there were **zero** reported incidents.
- In 2024 and 2025, there were **zero** reported incidents of staff-on-resident sexual harassment.

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2025 Corrective Actions

In 2025, there were no reported incidents of staff-on-resident sexual harassment, resident-on-resident nonconsensual acts, resident-on-resident sexual harassment or resident-on-resident abusive sexual contact. There was one reported incident of staff-on-resident sexual misconduct which was found to be unsubstantiated. In 2025, Ware Youth Center Group Home/Treatment Program implemented the following actions:

- The facility will continue administering the Diana Screen to all potential new hires.
- The facility will continue to conduct pre-hire psychological evaluations to all potential new hires before a formal offer of employment.
- The facility contracted with Guardian Alarm Systems to replace all existing security cameras to include audio.
- All facility staff were equipped with Axon Body Cameras with unlimited storage capabilities.
- Staff received training on the facility's Zero Tolerance policy on sexual harassment and sexual abuse.
- All staff were required to complete online Mandated Reporter Training through the Department of Children and Family Services online portal.
- All staff were required to complete online Ethics training through the Louisiana Ethics Board.
- All staff received training on proper supervision techniques of all residents.
- The facility continued to contract with Missouri Youth Services Institute to provide training and coaching to staff which included topics such as supervision, underlying causes of youth behavior and human dignity.

2024 Corrective Actions

In 2024, there was one reported incident of juvenile-on-juvenile abusive sexual contact which was determined to be unsubstantiated. Ware Youth Center Detention had zero reported incidents of juvenile-on-juvenile nonconsensual acts, juvenile-on-juvenile sexual harassment, staff-on-juvenile sexual misconduct or staff-on-juvenile sexual harassment. In 2024, Ware Youth Center Detention implemented the following actions:

- All potential new hires are administered the Diana Screen, which is a specialized, computer-based assessment tool used by youth-serving organizations to screen job applicants to evaluate candidates for behaviors, boundary issues or profiles that indicate a high risk of sexual misconduct or abuse against minors.
- The facility has also implemented pre-hire psychological examinations for all potential new hires to assess a candidate's personality traits, emotional stability, judgment, integrity and suitability for working with juveniles.
- Staff received training on the facility's Zero Tolerance policy on sexual harassment and sexual abuse.
- All staff were required to complete online Mandated Reporter Training through the Department of Children and Family Services online portal.
- All staff were required to complete online Ethics training through the Louisiana Ethics Board.

APPROVED BY:

Signature of Agency Head: Staci Scott

Name/Title of Agency Head: Staci Scott, Executive Director

Date Annual Report Approved: 1/02/2026