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Topic: JRCNWO ANNUAL PREA REPORT

Standard: 115.388

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The Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio (JRCNWO) has an established, evidence based program that supports the standards enacted by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). The facility embraces these standards and has worked diligently to create a strong Zero-Tolerance culture regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Policies, procedure, and practice have been developed to guide the facility in its efforts to prevent, detect, report and respond to any incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. These policies, procedures, and practices have been essential to the facility successfully completing audits of the PREA Standards in August 2015 and August 2018.

Any allegation of sexual abuse will be thoroughly investigated by the facility's designated investigators or the local investigative body. All incidents will be reviewed to determine any necessary corrective action that should be taken to avoid future incidents. The facility has not received an allegation of sexual abuse that occurred within the facility, while a resident was at another facility, or from a third party reporter.

Training and Education are primary methods that the facility uses to ensure that all staff and residents are knowledgeable of their rights and responsibilities regarding PREA. Residents receive information in a variety of methods, both upon admission and throughout their stay, to educate them about their rights and how to report any incident of sexual abuse. Staff receive yearly training covering topics such as the dynamics of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, how to avoid inappropriate relationships, the common reactions of victims, mandatory reporting requirements, and how to communicate effectively with residents, including those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or gender nonconforming. This training is facilitated by the Director, Intake Coordinator, and Quality Assurance Coordinator who have all received Train the Trainers certification through the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The facility also utilizes appropriate supervision levels, cameras, individual showers and single room housing as additional methods to prevent incidents of sexual abuse.