



Wisconsin Community Services 2021 PREA Annual Report

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was established in 2003 to address the problems of sexual abuse and sexual harassment in the Correctional System. PREA is a Federal Law established to address the elimination, reduction, and prevention of sexual assault and rape within the Correctional System.

Wisconsin Community Services has a zero-tolerance policy pertaining to all sexual misconduct, including sexual abuse and sexual harassment; and states in the PREA policy there shall be no sexual activity between staff and inmates/detainees/residents, or between incarcerated/detained persons. We are working continuously to implement new policies and procedures, PREA training requirements for staff and inmates/residents, and developing standards for the detection, prevention, reduction of sexual misconduct; and to ensure that all sexual misconduct is reported and investigated in a thorough and timely manner, accurately and completely.

It is the policy of Wisconsin Community Services to respond to and ensure the thorough investigation of every allegation of sexual misconduct reported. Investigations will be deferred to the appropriate officials (the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Milwaukee Police Department, or other) and their progress followed to its conclusion by the PREA Compliance Managers. At the conclusion of each investigation, all cases will have one of these three following outcomes:

Substantiated allegation: This means an allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred.

Unsubstantiated allegation: This means an allegation was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

Unfounded: This means an allegation was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

In 2021, Wisconsin Community Services had 3 PREA cases filed.

- 0 cases were reported for Inmate/Inmate Non-Consensual Sexual acts.
- 0 cases were reported for Inmate/Inmate Abusive Sexual Contact.
- 1 case was reported for Inmate/Inmate Sexual Harassment.
- 2 cases were reported for Sexual Harassment of Resident/Inmate by Staff.
- 0 cases were reported for Sexual Misconduct of Resident/Inmate by Staff.

WCS 2017 PREA CASES	SUBSTANTIATED	UNSUBSTANTIATED	UNFOUNDED	ONGOING INVESTIGATION	TOTAL REPORTED
Inmate/Inmate Non-Consensual Sexual acts	0	0	0	0	0
Inmate/Inmate Abusive Sexual Contact	0	0	0	0	0
Inmate/Inmate Sexual Harassment	0	0	1	0	0
Sexual Harassment of Resident/Inmate	0	0	2	0	0
Sexual Misconduct of Resident/Inmate	0	0	0	0	0

All data was collected and aggregated to assess and improve the effectiveness of our sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training.

Wisconsin Community Services remains committed to taking corrective actions to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards and to continue to provide a safe environment for its residents.

Federal Department of Justice PREA Standards

WCS complies with the Federal Department of Justice PREA Standards regarding PREA Audits. WCS had a Federal Department of Justice PREA audit performed at both Joshua Glover Residential Re-Entry Center and Parsons House Residential Re-Entry Center (RRC’s) in June of 2016 and another PREA Audit was performed in June of 2019. For both audits in 2016 and 2019, the Certified PREA Auditor found the WCS Residential Re-Entry Center to be in total compliance with the PREA Standards. In 2016, WCS was in compliance with 41 of the 43 PREA standards, with two being “Not Applicable”. In 2019, WCS was in compliance with 41 of the 43 PREA standards, and in fact, WCS exceeded five of the PREA standards. Again, there were two standards that were “Not Applicable”. These PREA audits occur in windows of every three years. Our PREA audit in 2016 was in the 2014-2016 three-year window. The PREA audits in June of 2019, fulfilled our compliance audit for the three-year window of 2017-2019. The next PREA Audit is scheduled for April 2022 and will be in compliance with the PREA Standards for a PREA Audit within the three-year window of 2020-2022.

Prior to our PREA Audit in 2019, and to ensure safety for both staff members as well as residents, WCS added 12" x 12" windows in the doors of any office or room where residents might be meeting alone with a staff member. In the past year, we have updated some of our video cameras from black and white to color. In 2021, WCS added additional cameras at Parsons House in the Common T.V. Room as well as the Exercise Area. At Glover House, WCS upgraded some black and white cameras to color cameras. Later in 2021, we updated the monitoring system in each Re-Entry Center to include QR codes so we can scan the codes on the residents I.D. badges to obtain an accurate head count as well as verify staff presence while conducting our regular rounds.

Additionally, WCS conducts PREA background screenings on everyone who is referred for employment at our Re-Entry Centers.

WCS Residential Re-Entry Center staff are trained to conduct Pat Searches of residents in accordance with the Department of Justice PREA Standards. All staff have completed Pat Search training in 2020 to ensure that they are qualified to properly conduct safe and efficient searches. Pat Searches are recorded via video surveillance to thoroughly investigate potential accusations of improper searches. These practices and services continue to be provided to the residents at our three Residential Re-Entry Centers, Joshua Glover Residential Re-Entry Facility, a facility housing Wisconsin Department of Corrections offenders, Parsons House, a facility housing Federal offenders, and Swigart House, a facility housing individuals referred for Substance Abuse Treatment.

While the PREA Standards require PREA refresher training every two years, all WCS Residential Re-Entry Center staff are required to complete yearly PREA Training. Staff take PREA refresher trainings online through a company called Relias. Every new hire is required to take the online course entitled "PREA: An Introduction and Overview." We also discuss PREA issues and policies at most of our monthly mandatory all-staff meetings. We continue to have regular PREA trainings to update the education and awareness of all staff.

WCS continues to be committed to taking corrective actions to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards. We will continue to maintain a zero-tolerance policy regarding Sexual Harassment, Abuse, and Assault in our facilities.