



Youth Opportunity Evert Academy Annual Report

Youth Opportunity Evert Academy (YOEA) contracts with the State of Michigan to provide juvenile justice residential services and is, therefore, required to adopt and comply with all standards of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

Youth Opportunity Evert Academy's PREA Policy states that all facility personnel have zero tolerance for sexual abuse and sexual harassment of residents. YOEA has had preventive plans in place and, should allegations regarding sexual abuse or harassment be made, all personnel are appropriately trained to take action to rapidly restore safety, attend to and support the victim, and promptly initiate the investigative process.

Audits are required to ensure compliance with PREA standards. YOEA (formerly Muskegon River Youth Home) was audited and found fully compliant with all of the PREA juvenile standards in February 2015. Copies of both PREA audit final reports are listed on the YOEA website.

Reporting Sexual Abuse or Harassment

- YOEA policy requires that YOEA provide youths with multiple ways to report sexual abuse and harassment, including suspected sexual abuse, and youth must be given an orientation on the multiple reporting options available to them. YOEA ensures that youth that report sexual abuse or harassment and supporting witnesses are protected from retaliation. YOEA informs youth that they will be protected from retaliation. Reporting options include:
- Verbally or in writing to any staff, counselor or administrator.
- In writing through the youth and family grievance process.
- Verbally or in writing to an advocate or parent.
- Externally by telephoning Children's Protective Services (CPS) at (855) 444-3911.
- Any member of the public that suspects sexual abuse or sexual harassment is occurring has occurred at the facility may also report by calling CPS.
- All personal information is redacted.

2018 Aggregate Sexual Abuse Data

Data listed below is for juvenile justice program residents housed at YOEA during calendar year 2018.

Demographic Data

Number of youths held in YOEA on December 31, 2018:

- Male 44
- Female 9
- Total 53



Age of the youths:

- Age 17 or younger 51
- Ages 18-20 2
- Age 21 or older 0
- Total 53

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment Allegations during calendar year 2018:

Youth-on-youth allegations: 0
Staff-on-youth allegations: 0
Total Allegations: 0

2017 Calendar Year Comparison Data

Youth-on-youth allegations (non-consensual sexual act): 0
Staff-on-youth allegations: 0
Total Allegations: 0

Changes Made to Policy and Procedure due to Findings of Investigations

YOEA now wand searches all employees prior to entering the secure unit for any objects that are not allowed within the secure units, such as, personal keys, cell phones, food/beverages, bags/purses etc. YOEA will also secure all personal belongings of visitors prior to entering the secure units.

YOEA has increased administrator rounds to occur daily by multiple administrators on duty. The program also reviews camera footage for blind spots, fidelity of programming at least twice a week at random. YOEA has implemented a “Youth Movement” system were staff have to radio for approval from a master control every youth movement. YOEA has also increased staffing to add a Program Supervisor to each housing unit.

Report Approval

Kathy Fiorletta
Regional Director



Date: 2/26/19