



Volunteers
of America®

OHIO & INDIANA

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT: 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana is dedicated to providing evidenced based residential reentry services to clients through a safe and secure environment and meeting the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 at all of our program sites. This report is a summary of the Ohio & Indiana Residential Reentry Program's efforts in PREA compliance. By examining the collection and aggregation of agency data, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of sexual abuse detection, prevention, and response.

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Purpose

STANDARDS

In compliance with PREA national standards §115.88 and §115.89, this document serves to satisfy the reporting and publication of findings, to include:

1. Review and aggregate incident-based sexual abuse data annually to improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training, including:
 - a. Identifying problem areas
 - b. Taking corrective action on an on-going basis
 - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings
2. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years. Provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
3. Publish the annual report on the Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana website for each facility, as well as for the agency as a whole.

PUBLICATION

The publication of the annual report is located on the Agency's website:

<https://www.voahin.org/services/criminal-justice-reentry/>

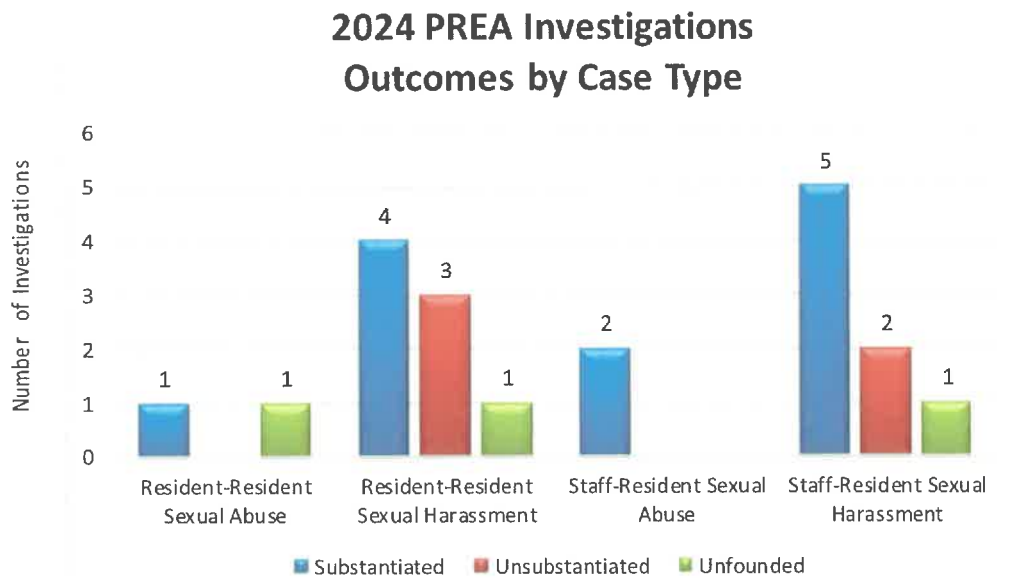
Aggregated Data

Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana collects data from the referrals for investigation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, both resident on resident and staff on resident incidents. The data in this report contains aggregated data pursuant to the *Survey of Sexual Violence* form.

All allegations are entered and tracked through a secure internal electronic database, the *PREA Incident Report Log*. For the purposes of this report, the data collected is limited to calendar year (CY) 2024.

The following graph depicts the number of sexual abuse and sexual harassment cases of resident on resident and staff on resident PREA incidents investigated at six (6) residential reentry program sites across Ohio and Indiana. There was a total of twenty (20) PREA reports. Twelve (12) of those cases were substantiated, five (5) were unsubstantiated and three (3) were unfounded. This is equal to the total cases investigated in CY2023. There was a decrease in substantiated cases for FY2024.

Figure 1.1

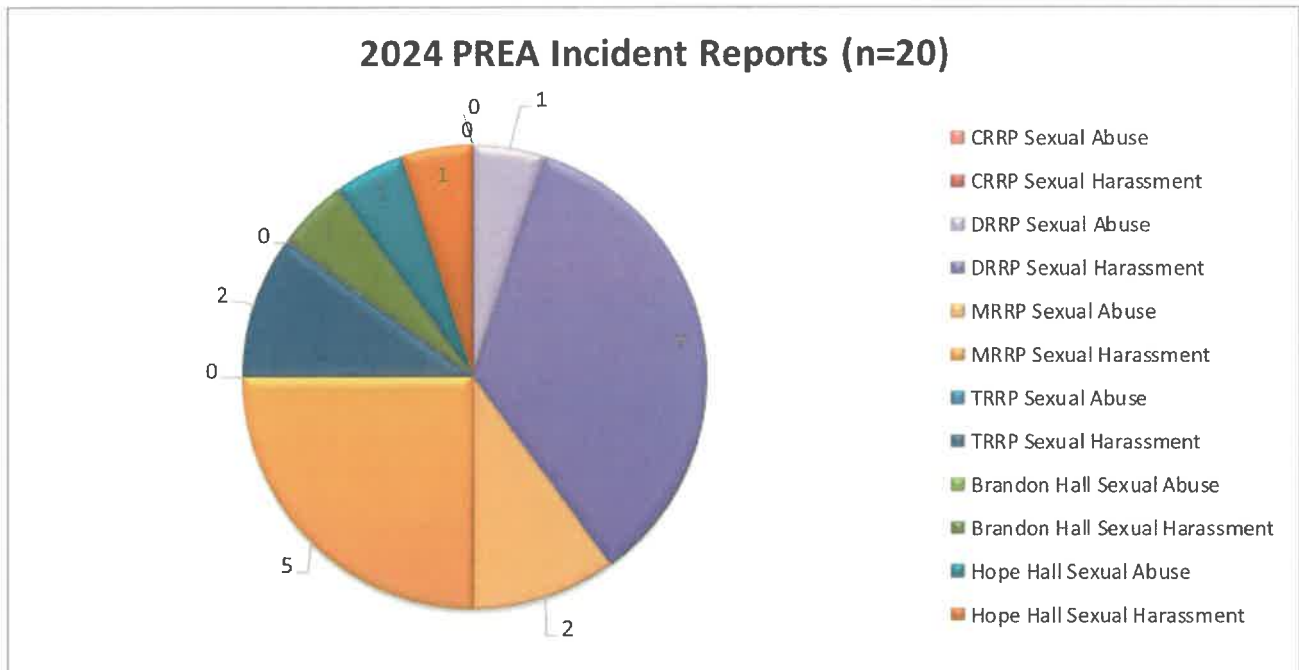


Comparative Data Analysis

The following graph (Figure 2.1) represents a comparison between Volunteers of America’s four reentry program sites in Ohio and two reentry programs in Indiana for CY2024. The data includes all reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment received regardless of disposition.

Mansfield RRP investigated seven reports, five of which were determined to be substantiated. Dayton RRP had eight reports, and four were substantiated. Cincinnati RRP investigated two reports, both of which were determined to be substantiated. Evansville RRP investigated two reports, and both cases were substantiated. Toledo RRP investigated two reports and one of those was substantiated. Indianapolis RRP investigated one report, which was not substantiated.

Figure 2.1



Program Legend: CRRP – Cincinnati Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 DRRP – Dayton Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 MRRP – Mansfield Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 TRRP – Toledo Residential Reentry Program, Ohio
 Hope Hall - Evansville, Indiana
 Brandon Hall – Indianapolis, Indiana

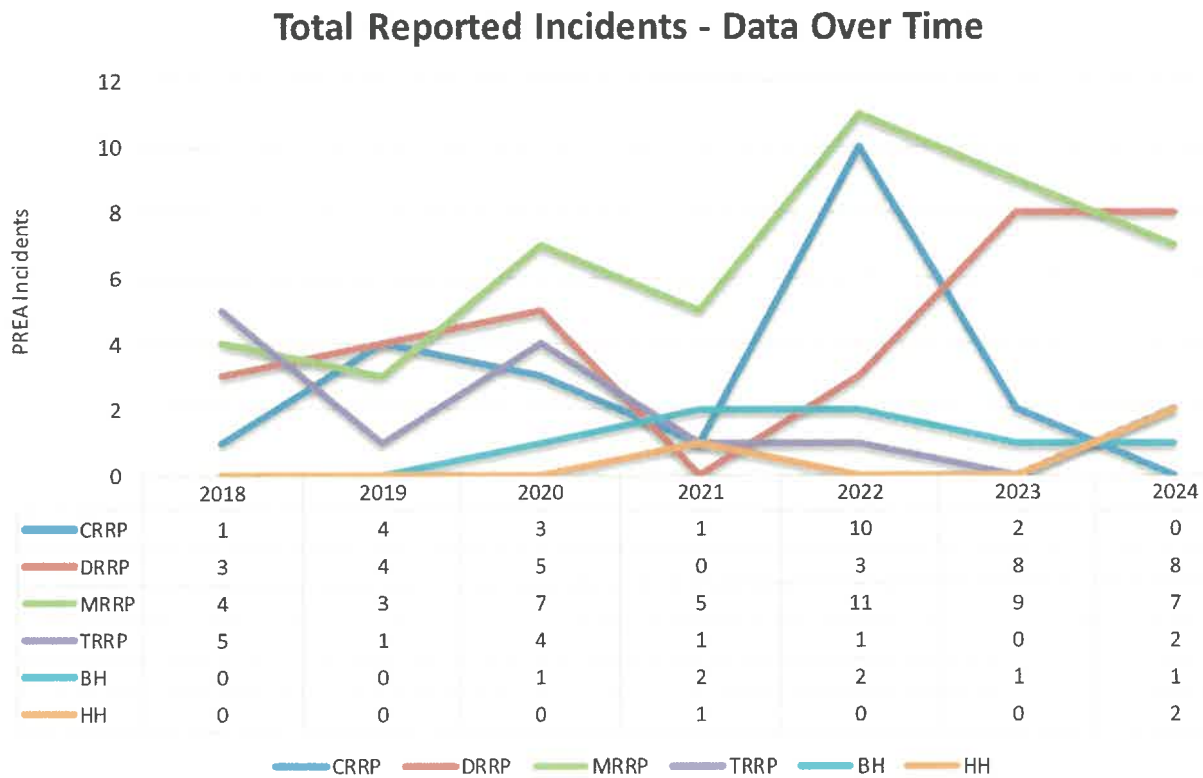
Annual Review

Across all four Ohio residential reentry programs, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana (VOAOHIN) served 2791 residents in CY2024. VOAHOIN served 534 more residents in Ohio during CY2024 than in CY2023. Indiana residential reentry programs served a total of 548 residents in CY2024, 103 more than in CY2023. The number of reported PREA incidents (n=20) is not disproportionate to the number of residents served in a twelve-month period. See figure 3.2 for a comparison of data over time.

In review of the aggregated data from CY2024, reports included both resident-on-resident incidents and staff-on-resident incidents, with an equal number of each. Staff across programs would benefit from additional training related to understanding sexual harassment within the PREA definitions as well as continued training on interpersonal communication and boundaries with residents. Training should include all staff, contractors, and volunteers. Additional training should target specifically the staff who have the most consistent contact with residents. Additional staff guidance is available and annual required trainings are assigned through Relias for all staff. In addition to the Relias training, an effort was made in CY2024 to increase the number of in person live PREA trainings available to ensure staff competency and additional trainings were completed live at each site.

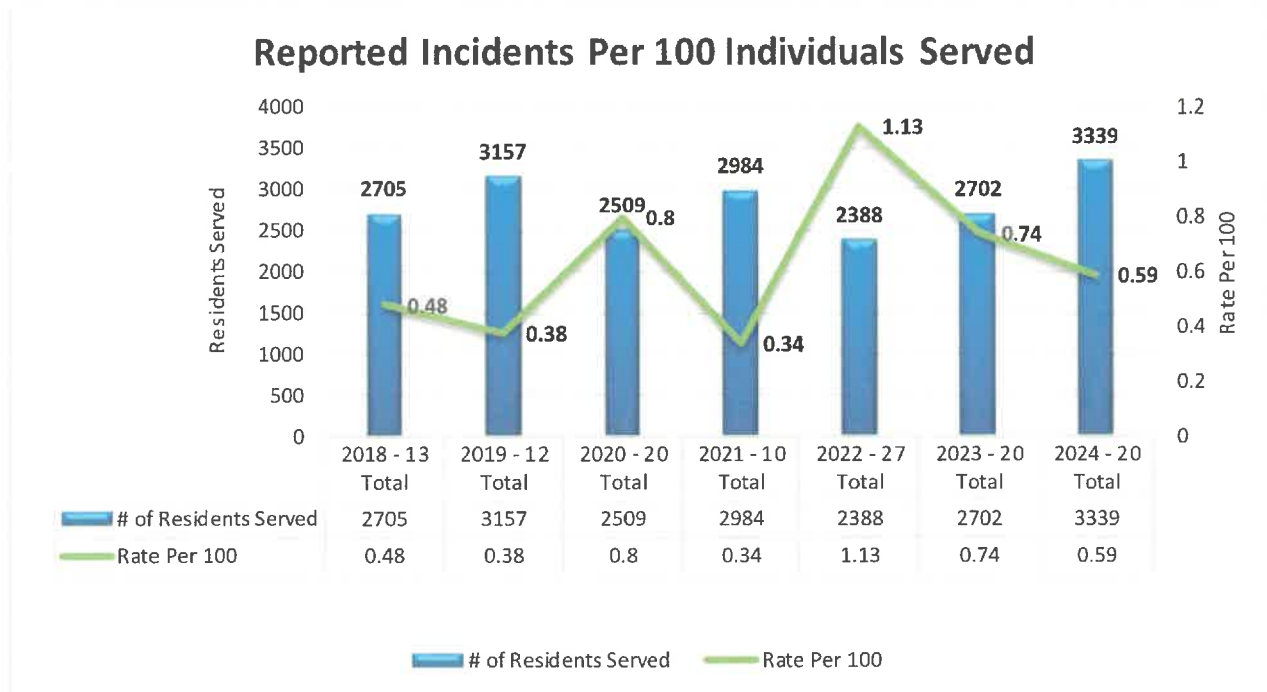
The following graph (Figure 3.1) represents an annual total comparison between Volunteers of America’s six Residential Reentry programs over a period of seven years. The data includes all reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment received regardless of disposition.

Figure 3.1



Annual Review

The following graph (Figure 3.2) represents the number of reported incidents per 100 individuals served at Volunteers of America's six Residential Reentry programs over a period of seven years. The number of completed PREA investigations has declined over the past two years. Figure 3.2



During CY 2024 Volunteers of America has continued to ensure monitoring technology is kept up to date and in working order. Remote site surveillance and improved environmental compliance are benefits to these technologies. There are plans in CY2025 to continue updating cameras and security systems at the residential reentry facilities. VOA started the implementation of photo badge ids for all employees. We've also started to install new access control systems at our residential reentry sites so that we can now assign access controls to each individual employee to individual badge readers. This will help with access control throughout. This has been implemented at Hope Hall, Brandon Hall and Dayton RRP. Cincinnati RRP, Toledo RRP & Mansfield RRP are up next for monitoring technology improvements. We are also looking to upgrade the camera system at Toledo RRP to a digital basis.

There is a planned training opportunity for PREA investigators in March of CY2024. Additional investigators will be trained to cover both states. There are currently 19 PREA investigators across both states to begin CY2025. Continued PREA training for all staff will be offered in the upcoming year. The agency has one PREA Coordinator serving both states. Additionally, there are PREA Compliance Managers to help ensure our residential reentry programs are meeting all standards.

Corrective Actions & Problem Areas

The Dayton and Toledo, Ohio Residential Reentry Programs completed their PREA audits during CY2024. The facilities were found in full compliance. Hope Hall in Indiana and the Mansfield, Ohio facility will be audited in CY2025. Cincinnati RRP and Brandon Hall will be audited again in CY2026.

Continued actions to be taken at the agency level include:

- Continued annual review and revision of agency policy and procedure
- Selection and training of additional investigators and trainers, to cover all program site locations
- Selection and training of additional victim advocates at all locations
- Training for all staff on communication and boundaries via the Relias online training system, with the addition of live trainings when needed.
- Continued review of PREA Training modules assigned to all staff in the Relias online training system
- Training review for all modules required for Contractors and Volunteers
- Additional training, specifically for staff completing intake tasks and case managers, targeting importance of use of screening, including dorm/bed assignments and increased monitoring of vulnerable individuals
- Additional training for all site leadership on best practice and remaining audit ready at all times to ensure resident and facility safety
- QI Quarterly Meetings for all RRP programs, with an emphasis on PREA compliance and audit standards
- All contractors, volunteers and interns will now have all standard requirements tracked in ADP and training tracked in Relias, our learning management system, just as staff have been.

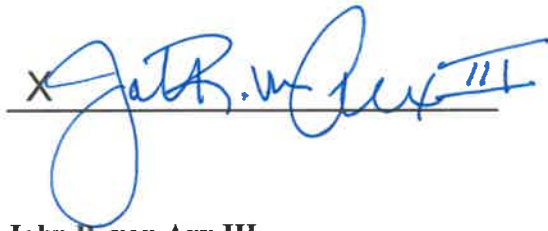
Conclusion

Volunteers of America of Ohio & Indiana is committed to a continual and progressive culture wherein clients are free from sexual abuse or assault and sexual harassment. By taking action to implement the changes identified, and meet the requirements of the PREA standards, Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana can maintain a safe environment for our residents.



Stacey Seif
PREA Coordinator
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Company Information



John R. von Arx III
President & CEO
Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana

Indiana Office
4181 East 96th Street, Suite 120
Indianapolis, IN 46240

Ohio Office
215 N. Front St
Columbus, OH 43215

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