

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 established the requirement of Zero Tolerance for acts of sexual abuse or harassment in confinement facilities. Although Tennessee Children's Home is not a prison, we are required to meet PREA standards because we contract with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services to work with adolescents adjudicated as Juvenile Justice clients. 51% of Tennessee Children's Home's population are Juvenile Justice clients.

The goal of the law and standards are to eliminate acts of sexual abuse or harassment. Tennessee Children's Home follows these standards. All allegations are fully investigated according to the Tennessee Department of Children's Services Policies.

ANNUAL REPORTS:

2013-2014: Tennessee Children's Home had one (1) allegation of a youth-on-youth sexual harassment incident. The incident was reported to Child Protective Services and was 'screened out'. Which means that the incident did not meet Child Protective Services Criteria for sexual abuse or harassment. Therefore, no action was required.

2014-2015: Tennessee Children's Home reported seven (7) alleged incidents of sexual violence of youth-on-youth. All incidents were reported to Child Protective Services. Three (3) were 'screened out'. Four (4) were investigated and deemed 'unfounded' which means that there was not enough evidence or stories were in conflict. No action was required.

2015-2016: Five (5) incidents of alleged sexual abuse/harassment were reported to Child Protective Services. One (1) unfounded and four (4) were 'screened out'. No action was required.

2016-2017: One (1) staff on youth alleged sexual abuse/harassment was reported to Child Protective Services and was substantiated. The staff involved was dismissed from employment. One (1) report of youth-on-youth abuse/harassment was also reported to Child Protective Services and was 'screened out'. No action was required.

2017-2018: There were two (2) reports of youth-on-youth alleged harassment were reported to Child Protective Services and were screened out. There were four (4) reports of youth-on-youth alleged abuse/harassment all four were screened out. There was one (1) report of alleged abuse/harassment staff on youth. This case was closed with concerns. Staff involved resigned position and victim was unable to be contacted.

2018-2019: There was one (1) allegation of youth-on-youth abuse/harassment. Child Protective Services was contacted. The report was 'screened out'. No action was required. One (1) alleged report of staff on youth was made to Child Protective Services. Allegation was unsubstantiated with concerns. Concerns were addressed with the staff member. However, staff member chose to resign.

2019-2020: There were five (5) reports of alleged youth-on-youth abuse/harassment. All were reported to Child Protective Services. Four (4) allegations were 'screened out. One (1) incident occurred at another facility and victim refused to submit to forensic exam stating the incident occurred two weeks before entering Tennessee Children's Home.

***Identifying information such as name, age, race, gender, and location have been redacted to maintain confidentiality and ensure safety and security of minors and the facility.**

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