



## Calendar Year 2024 Annual PREA Report

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**Reviewed and approved by:** Dr. Junior Dillion, President & CEO

**Completed for the time period of January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024**

Volunteers of America of Western New York, Inc. (VOA) is committed to meeting the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and ensuring the safety and security of residents/inmates and staff in our facilities. This report is a summary of our PREA compliance efforts throughout the calendar year of 2024. Following is a summary of the reports received during the period of Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024:

<b>Inmate – on - Inmate Sexual Harassment Allegations</b>			
<i><b>Substantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unsubstantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unfounded</b></i>	<i><b>Under Investigation</b></i>
0	0	0	0

<b>Inmate – on - Inmate Sexual Abuse Allegations</b>			
<i><b>Substantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unsubstantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unfounded</b></i>	<i><b>Under Investigation</b></i>
0	0	0	0

<b>Staff, Volunteer, Contractor–on-Inmate Sexual Harassment Allegations</b>			
<i><b>Substantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unsubstantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unfounded</b></i>	<i><b>Under Investigation</b></i>
0	0	0	0

<b>Staff, Volunteer, Contractor-on-Inmate Sexual Abuse Allegations</b>			
<i><b>Substantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unsubstantiated</b></i>	<i><b>Unfounded</b></i>	<i><b>Under Investigation</b></i>
0	0	0	0

There were no incidents reported during the time period at VOA’s Residential Reentry Center (RRC) in Rochester, NY or at VOA’s Community Based Residential Program for parolees in Binghamton, NY. The number of reported allegations (0 in total) is less than the three prior years. In 2023, there was one allegation, in 2022 there were 3 allegations and in 2021, there were 5 allegations reported.

In analyzing the history of PREA incidents, the following trends have been noted:

- 1) The number of reports has decreased over the past three years. Prior to 2024 (when there were no reports), the majority of reports were about possible sexual harassment, rather than sexual abuse. In most cases, residents reported concerns about possible sexual advances or comments before a situation escalated, indicating an understanding of their rights and the process established to protect them, as well as trust in VOA staff. In addition, staff also reported when they observed any behavior that is of concern, which helps to prevent/reduce sexual abuse/harassment. VOA attributes this to our focus on training, prevention efforts, and our zero-tolerance stance towards all forms of sexual abuse and harassment.



- 2) The majority of reports since 2019 have been unsubstantiated or unfounded. VOA has comprehensive policies and procedures in place to prevent sexual harassment and abuse, and we respond to reports/incidents immediately. Both staff and residents receive on-going education on how to identify sexual abuse and harassment and how to report suspected or observed incidents.
- 3) Following any report, VOA analyzes the situation and implements preventative measures to reduce the possibility of a future situation, even if the report was unsubstantiated or unfounded. Our goal is to ensure a safe environment and prevent sexual harassment or abuse, so we take the opportunity to learn from any report and make continuous improvements.

VOA conducts monthly monitoring, which may also be a contributing factor in the reduction of incidents.

VOA will continue an ongoing monitoring of complaints and will ensure appropriate action is taken if any trends are identified.