



Prison Rape Elimination Act

2020 Annual Report

Hermitage House Youth Services

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Annual Report

Findings and Corrective Actions – 2020

Jen Boyle, PREA Coordinator

Hermitage House Youth Services (HHYS), in its continuing effort to provide quality care to youth entrusted to the agency's treatment and therapeutic programming, is committed to the safety of all juvenile residents and to the compliance with the standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003. HHYS has a zero-tolerance policy for all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of juveniles and is committed to the prevention, detection and response to this conduct.

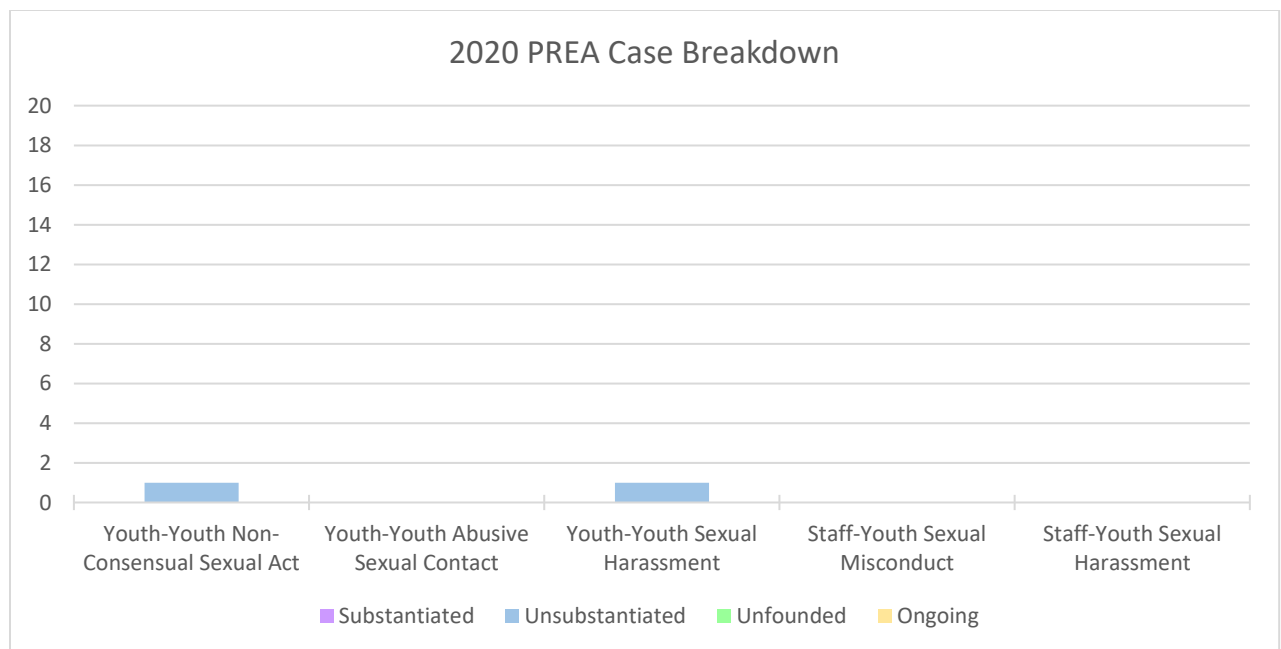
Hermitage House is dedicated to providing staff and residents with education, training, policies and procedures designed to promote the safety of all individuals. Additionally, HHYS employs an agency-level PREA Coordinator to develop, implement and oversee the agency's compliance with PREA standards.

HHYS continues to revise and implement all aspects of the PREA regulations to further comply with the PREA standards. Below is a summary of reported incidents from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, along with our findings and corrective action(s) taken pursuant to standard 115.387, which shall be considered our annual report and posted for the public on the HHYS website at: <https://www.hermitagehouse.org/accreditation>.

Summary and Findings:

In 2020, Hermitage House Youth Services (HHYS) had the following PREA reports within its facilities:

Youth on Youth Non-Consensual Sexual Acts =	1 Reports:	0 Substantiated 1 Unsubstantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Pending	<p>Definitions</p> <p><u>Substantiated:</u> <i>The event was determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence</i></p> <p><u>Unsubstantiated:</u> <i>Evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred</i></p> <p><u>Unfounded:</u> <i>The investigation determined that the event did NOT occur</i></p> <p><u>Ongoing:</u> <i>Evidence is still being gathered and a final determination has not yet been made</i></p>
Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Contact =	0 Reports:	0 Substantiated 0 Unsubstantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Pending	
Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment =	1 Reports:	0 Substantiated 1 Unsubstantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Pending	
Staff Sexual Misconduct with Youth =	0 Reports:	0 Substantiated 0 Unsubstantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Pending	
Staff Sexual Harassment of Youth =	0 Reports:	0 Substantiated 0 Unsubstantiated 0 Unfounded 0 Pending	

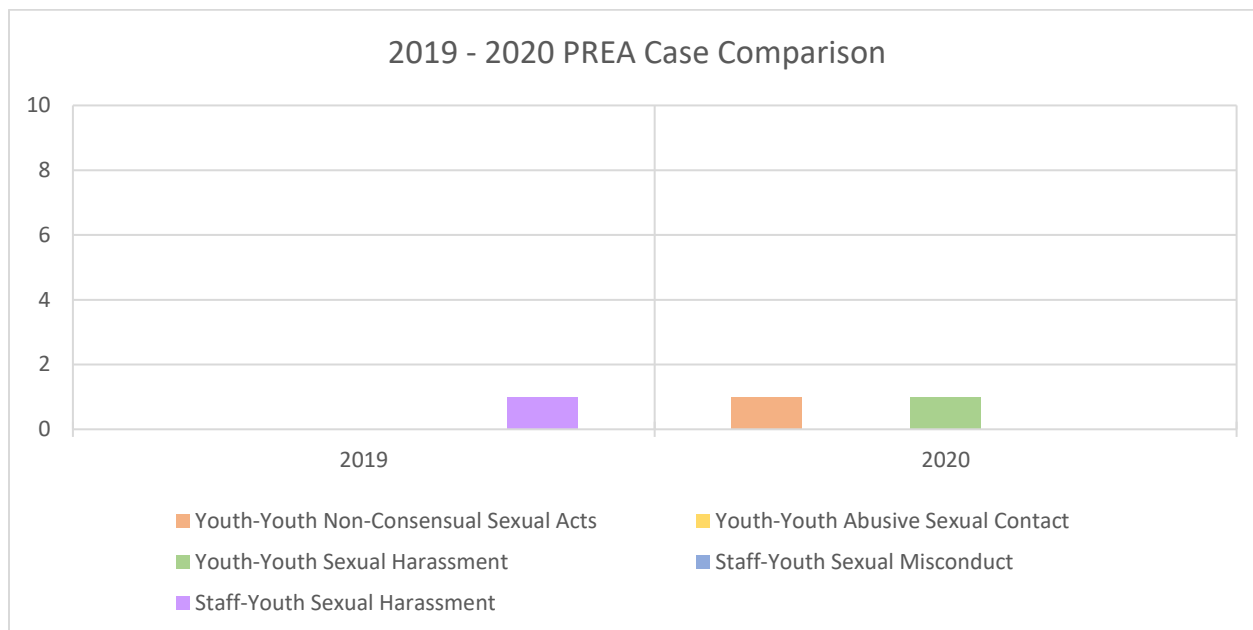


Corrective Action Plans:

The following corrective actions were taken with regard to received reports:

Regarding the reported youth on youth non-consensual sexual act and the reported youth on youth sexual harassment, appropriate investigations were initiated and appropriate safety planning was developed and followed. Education and counseling were provided to each youth involved.

To provide an assessment of the agency’s progress in addressing sexual misconduct, the following is a comparison of the previous and current years’ data:



Following 2019, HHYS determined to update and increase video surveillance within agency buildings to further deter sexual misconduct and to improve investigative processes should an incident occur. HHYS has continued to upgrade its video surveillance system throughout the 2020 year. Three living units have had system upgrades with additional cameras installed. Two other units have begun a video surveillance upgrade and additional camera installation process as well.

PREA Compliance Audits:

HHYS facilities have been successfully audited in previous years. Hermitage House completed a PREA audit in 2017, during the second PREA Audit Cycle, and was deemed to be in full compliance. One of two facilities, HHYS Main Campus, was audited at that time. The other facility, South Campus, does not meet the criteria and requirements to necessitate a PREA audit. All facilities, however, are in full compliance.

HHYS's subsequent audit scheduled for 2020, was postponed due to Covid-19. HHYS's Main Campus is scheduled to be audited November 2021. Hermitage House continues to strive for excellence in providing safety and supervision within our programs, and is therefore committed to on-going growth, development and implementation of all PREA standards.

Completed By: Jennifer Boyle, PREA Coordinator



Approved By: Kristy Cole-Prenatt, Associate Executive Director

Kristy Cole-Prenatt