



Sangamon County Juvenile Center
2201 S Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, IL 62703

**Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
Annual Report 2023**

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Facility

The Sangamon County Juvenile Center was dedicated and opened on October 26, 2000 as “A Continuum of Care for At-Risk Youth. This facility represents a commitment from the citizens of our community to any troubled youth confined within these walls, that we have not forgotten or abandoned you. It is our earnest hope that during your time spent here, you will come to realize that your young life has purpose, meaning, and promises. The Sangamon County Juvenile center originated as a 60,000 square foot single story building with a total of 48 individual sleeping rooms and 4 security rooms for secure detention. The facility originally was composed for two secure detention living units with 24 beds each and an additional 4 security beds, a residential side for the Community Transition Program (CTP) that was composed of 10 staff secure beds, education, medical, physical recreation, visitation, intake and administration areas. The facility also had Day-Evening Reporting Program where youth were referred by their probation offices and it operated during high risk hours from 3:00p.m.-8:00p.m. Since the opening of this building several changes have been made to the housing levels; our facility currently has 24 individual sleeping rooms and 4 security rooms, education, medical, mental health office, physical recreation, intake, and administration areas. The facility provides secure detention services for both male and female juveniles (ages 10-21) who have been accused of serious crimes, or who have been sentenced to the facility for a period to not exceed 30 days.

This modern facility emphasizes access to education, physical and mental health care, recreation and religious services bringing all the components necessary to serve the many needs of the juvenile population. Focus is placed on intensive and ongoing staff training to better serve the residents of the facility. Policies reflect statutory regulations as well as the expectation and standards of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, the Association of Illinois Courts and the Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act.

Facility Mission

The mission of The Sangamon County Juvenile Center is to reduce recidivism in the community and contributing to public safety by promoting positive behavior change.

Facility PREA Mission

To achieve compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) by developing guidelines and policies for preventing, detecting, responding, monitoring and eradicating all sexual abuse and harassment within the Sangamon County Juvenile Center.

Purpose

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The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a federal law that prohibits sexual misconduct within correctional settings, including juvenile detention centers. PREA promotes best practice for prevention, detection and response to sexual misconduct within the facility. The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) requires that our facility collects and analyzes data... “in order to assess and improve the effectiveness of its sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices and training.” (Standard 115.388)

This report is completed in order to identify problem areas in order to take corrective action, compare data with proceeding years and to assess our facility’s progress in addressing sexual misconduct. (Standard 115.388)

This report is intended to provide information for calendar year 2023.

Facility Achievements in 2023

- The JVC was able to work with a PREA consultant to help with full implementation.
- The JVC has memorandum of understandings with The Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault to provide residents with access to outside victim advocates to receive emotional support services.
- Continued training for all employees on our zero-tolerance policy, the PREA standards, and how to fulfil their role as a mandated reporter.
- Continued training for all interns, volunteers, contractors, medical and mental health staff on the facilities policy and procedures related to PREA to meet the Federal PREA standards.
- Ensured all residents complete a Vulnerability Screening Assessment at intake.
- Ensured all residents received PREA Orientation.
- Maintained our revised facility strip search policy to eliminate indiscriminate strip searches.
- The PREA coordinator continues to meet with other PREA Coordinators from juvenile detention centers in the state to increase knowledge and share resources, the PREA Consultant as well as the coach for the TIPS grant through Impact Justice.

2023 Facility Sexual Abuse Data

Sangamon County JVC Investigative Outcome

Category	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded	Pending
Resident-Resident Sexual Abuse				
Staff-Resident Sexual Abuse				

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Resident-Resident Sexual Harassment		1	1	
Staff-Resident Sexual Harassment				
Total				

Corrective Actions

In 2023, the facility had one (1) unsubstantiated sexual harassment incident and one (1) unfounded sexual harassment incident between residents.

- When residents are placed in security housing, female and male placement is considered for resident safety and to avoid negative interactions.

Definitions

Resident-on-Resident Sexual Abuse:

Sexual abuse of an inmate, detainee, or resident by another inmate, detainee, or resident includes any of the following acts, if the victim does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument; and
- (4) Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation

Staff-on-Resident Sexual Abuse:

Sexual abuse of a resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer includes any of the following acts, with or without consent of the inmate, detainee, or resident:

- (1) Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight;
- (2) Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus;
- (3) Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;

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- (4) Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (5) Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire;
- (6) Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described in paragraphs (5) of this section;
- (7) Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his or her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of an inmate, detainee, or resident, and
- (8) Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer.

-Voyeurism Defined as: an invasion of privacy of a resident unrelated to official duties, such as peering at a resident using a toilet or requiring a resident to expose their genitals.

Evidentiary Standard:

The agency shall impose no standard higher than a preponderance of the evidence in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated.

Substantiated:

Substantiated allegation means an allegation was investigated and determined to have occurred.

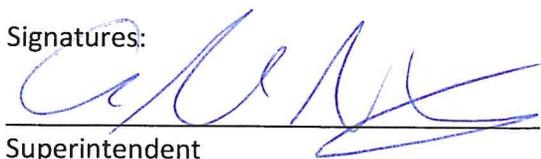
Unsubstantiated:

Unsubstantiated allegation means an allegation was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

Unfounded:

Unfounded allegation means an allegation was investigated and determined not to have occurred.

Signatures:

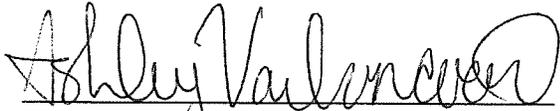


Superintendent



Date

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PREA Coordinator

1-1-24
Date