

# Stay Safe

## **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Information Booklet**

**Lucas County Youth Treatment Center  
225 11th Street, Toledo, OH 43604  
(419) 213-6161**

The Prison Rape Elimination Act was signed into law September 4, 2010.

All confinement institutions – public and private – community corrections, jails, prisons, and detention centers which house adult or juvenile offenders are accountable for this federal law.

The law covers both staff and inmate on inmate sexual abuse, sexual assault or sexual harassment.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) is a law. The U.S. government made this law. The law says that all correctional institutions must reduce violent crimes that happen within them. Everyone deserves to be safe, and the law protects you from other residents or staff who may sexually violate you.

NATIONAL  
**PREA**  
RESOURCE  
CENTER



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

# What are the goals of PREA?

The goal of PREA, is your safety inside this community correctional facility. We take it seriously. We want you to take it seriously.

## YTC Follows This Law By:

- Providing a safe environment.
- Teaching you about the kinds of behavior that would indicate that you are being violated against.
- Teaching you what to do if you are violated by another resident or staff.

## Questions about PREA

What will happen if I sexually abuse others?

1. Will it be investigated? (Yes)
2. Can I be removed from the program? (Yes)
3. Can charges be filed against me? (Yes)

## Your Rights:

You have the right to be free from sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment. You also have the right to be free from harm for reporting incidents of sexual abuse/assault and sexual harassment.

## Safety Assurances:

- You have the right to be safe at all times.
- No one has the right to ask you for sex or sexual favors.

# What is sexual abuse, assault or harassment?

Sexual abuse, assault or harassment of any kind, by or with anyone, including residents, visitors and staff will not be tolerated.

Examples are ➤

Sexual touching.

Possession of pornographic material.

Exposing yourself.

Making sexual comments to residents, staff or others in the building.

Sexual relationships with either staff or other residents.

Sexual harassment.

YTC has a **ZERO**

tolerance for

sexually abusive,

sexually

assaultive

or sexually

harassing

behaviors.

# The Law says:

Any sexual contact  
between residents,  
and/or staff,  
volunteers or  
contractors is  
against the law.

If you think you are in  
**imminent danger** of being  
sexually abused, sexually  
assaulted, or sexually harassed:

- **Fill out an  
emergency  
grievance!**

**Your report will  
be private and  
only shared with  
the people who  
need to know.**

## Be Smart:

Promoting safety is what  
staff and youth must do.

Remember sexual harass-  
ment/ abuse/ assault is  
**NEVER** the fault of the  
victim.

Here are some things you  
can do to try and help  
yourself remain safe.

Make sure staff can see  
you.

Do not be apart from the  
main group.

**Trust your gut.** If a  
situation feels wrong or  
uncomfortable, it probably  
is wrong. Report it to a  
supervisor or trusted staff  
member.

**Trust wisely.**

# Learn the difference between Sexual Abuse, Sexual Assault, and Sexual Harassment

**Sexual Abuse:** Is when the victim does not consent, is coerced into a sexual act by overt or implied threats of violence, or is unable to consent or refuse. **There are NO consensual sexual relationships: either between residents or others and residents.**

**Sexual Assault:** Any contact between the sex organ of one person and the sex organ, mouth or anus of another person, or any intrusion of any part of the body of one person, or any object into the sex organ, mouth or anus or another person, the use of force or threat of force.

**Sexual Harassment** is when anyone (youth, staff member, contractor, or volunteer):

- Makes sexual advances
- Requests sexual favors
- Makes sexual comments, gestures or actions
- Makes sexual comments about body or clothing

# If Sexual Abuse, or Sexual Assault Happens

The  
faster  
we know,  
the  
faster we  
can  
help!

It is important that you report the incident.

Staff will keep you apart from the abuser.

Staff will make sure you get medical attention immediately.

You can talk to a therapist staff member to get further help.

The following steps help save evidence.

**Until staff can meet with you, these steps save evidence:**

**DO NOT Shower or wash**

**DO NOT eat or drink**

**DO NOT use the restroom**

**DO NOT brush your teeth**

**DO NOT change your clothes**

If you are violated against, you must tell a Supervisor or trusted staff member immediately.

Reporting can be hard to do, but it will make sure that you and others are safe and that no one else gets hurt.

You can report anonymously.

## How to report Sexual Abuse/Assault/Harassment:

- Immediately tell a trusted adult (such as your Counselor, Shift Leader, Supervisory Staff member and/or your parent(s). If you do not feel comfortable with any of these choices, you can request to report to the Senior Supervisor.
- Report anonymously

## Different ways for You and/or your family to report:

- File a grievance (this can be done anonymously).
- Call the YWCA Rape Crisis Center at (419) 241-7273 or 1-866-557-7273 to speak to a Victim Advocate.
- Contact Lucas County Children Services at (419) 213-3200.
- File an anonymous report on the Lucas County Website at <http://co.lucas.oh.us/Juvenile> (3rd person Report)
- Request to see your attorney.

All information reported is confidential. Your report will be private and only shared with the people who need to know. You will be told follow-up information. The Supervisory PREA Team will be notified of any outside support services contacted.

All youth calls are subject to monitoring. YTC must report all incidents of alleged sexual assault and sexual abuse to the appropriate Children Services Agency and the Toledo Police Department.

# YTC Advocacy Services

## Rape Crisis Center YWCA Northwest Ohio

1018 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604

### To Speak To A Victim Advocate Please Follow These Instructions:

- Ask staff to use the Rape Crisis Center phone.
- Pick Up the phone in the clinic, hallway or on the unit and listen for the dial tone.
- Dial the number listed on the phone.
- You will be connected to a live person to talk with.
- If you have questions about advocates please talk to a supervisor or designated PREA trainer.
- You may also write to the following Crisis Center:  
Rape Crisis Center YWCA Northwest Ohio, 1018 Jefferson Avenue, Toledo, OH 43604
- All youth calls are subject to monitoring. YTC must report all incidents of alleged sexual assault and sexual abuse to the appropriate Children Services Agency and the Toledo Police Department.

## What Advocates Can Do:

- Can go with you if you need to go to the hospital and be examined after a sexual assault.
- Can be with you during interviews with the police or Child Protective Services when they are discussing your abuse.
- Will listen to you and support you after the abuse.
- Can provide you a referral for counseling services while you are in YTC and when you return home.
- Will show you respect.
- Works with the YTC staff to make sure you are safe and to decrease possible contact with your perpetrator.
- Provide you with written information about sexual assault to help you cope with abuse.
- Can talk to you about your rights as a victim of sexual assault, including legal actions you can take.
- Be someone you can talk to confidentially about your abuse.
- You can report an allegation of sexual assault or abuse.
- You may either give your name or remain anonymous when calling an advocate.

## What Advocates Can Not Do:

- Does NOT provide you legal advice.
- Does NOT try and treat your mental health or medical problems, although they may suggest you see someone.
- Does NOT “investigate” your report of being sexually assaulted—they are not the police.
- Can NOT keep “secrets” if you report additional sexual assaults.
- Can NOT violate institutional rules (giving you phone calls to unapproved people, bringing in items without permission from the institution).

## Emergency Grievance

The grievance box is checked every day (even on the weekends and holidays).

**If you think you are in imminent danger of being sexually abused, sexually assaulted, or sexually harassed:**

- **Fill out a grievance**
- **Check that it is an emergency grievance**

**A supervisor will investigate what is happening to keep you safe.**



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*Lucas County Juvenile Court*

Care | Guidance | Treatment | Protection