



DAKOTA WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL REHAB CENTER

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2016 Annual PREA Report

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Dakota Women's Correctional and Rehabilitation Center (DWCRC) is committed meeting the standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and ensuring the safety and wellbeing for the offenders entrusted to DWCRC. This report is a summary of the agency's efforts in PREA compliance. DWCRC is dedicated to improving the effectiveness of sexual abuse detection, prevention, and response.

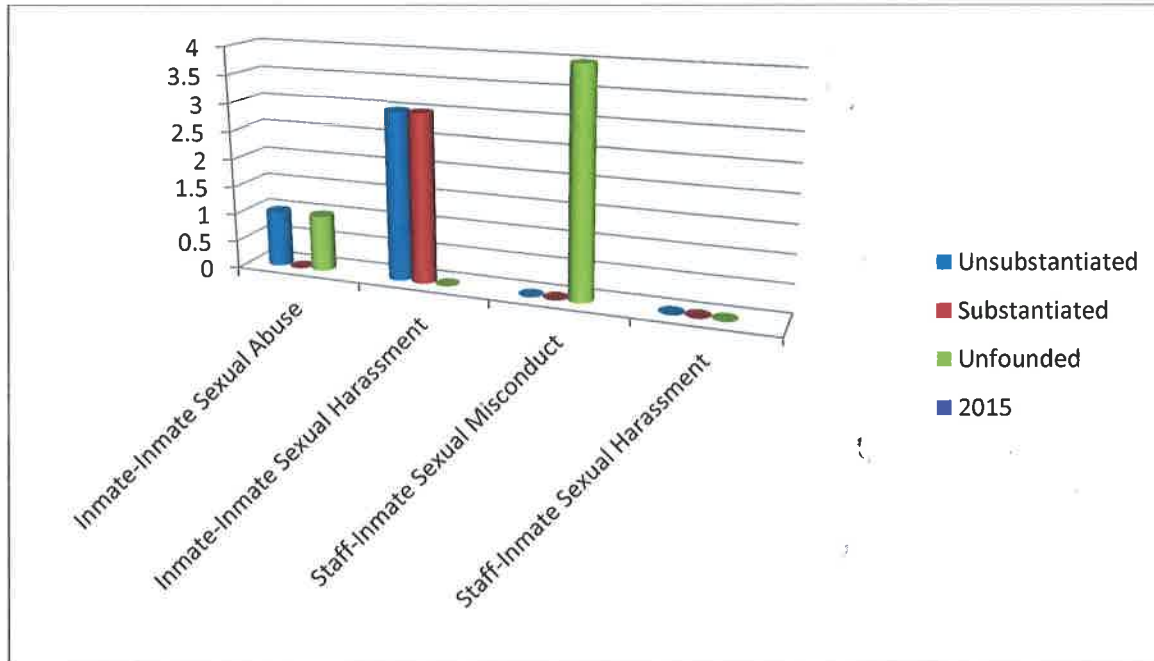
This document serves as an annual review to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training at DWCRC in accordance to §115.88 and §115.89 of the national PREA standards.

1. Review and aggregate incident-based sexual abuse data annually in order to improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training to include:
 - a. Identifying problem areas;
 - b. Taking corrective action on an on-going basis; and
 - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings.
2. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior year's and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
3. Publish the annual report on the DOCR website of its findings and corrective actions for each facility, as well as for the agency as a whole.

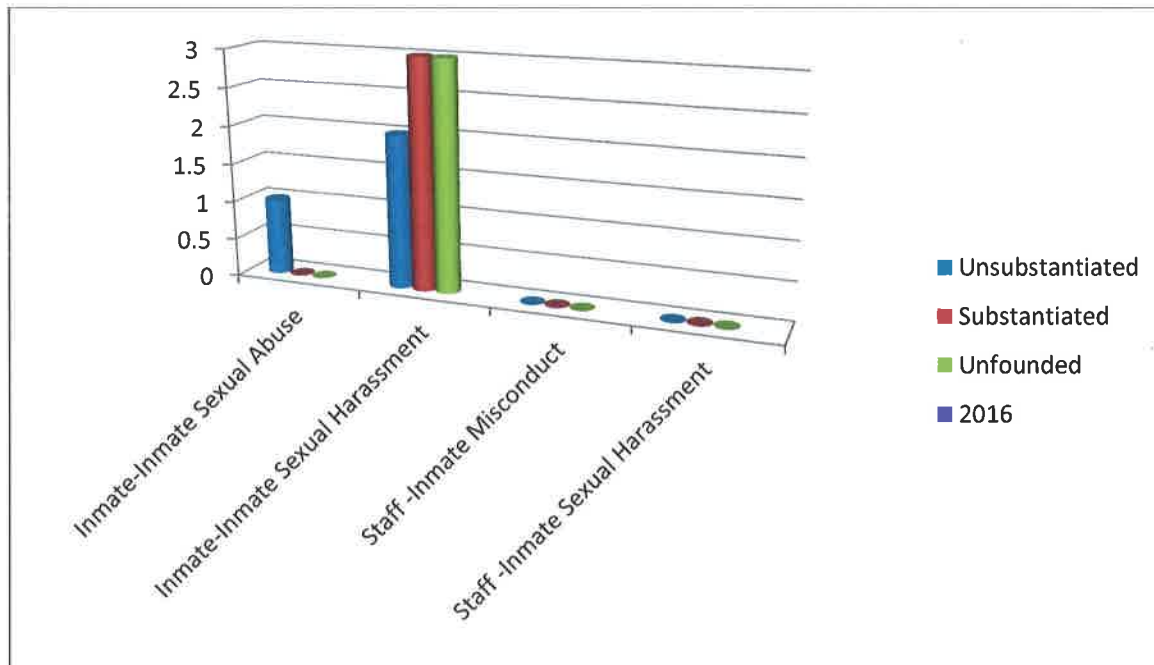
Aggregated Data:

DWCRC collects data from the allegations for investigations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; both inmate-inmate and staff-inmate. The charts in this section contain aggregated data as well as comparison between 2015 and 2016.

2015

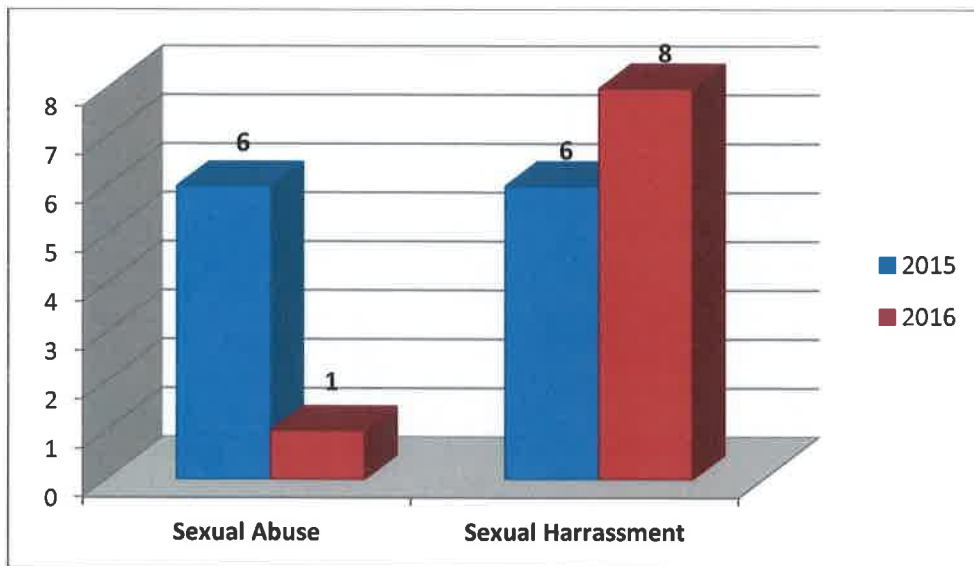


2016



Comparative Data Analysis:

The following chart is the comparison between 2015 and 2016 representing the allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. These totals are all allegations received determined to be PREA related, regardless of the findings. In the 2015, the total number of allegations was 12 and the total for 2016 was 9. DWCRC has collected and submitted Survey of Sexual Victimization to ND DOCR of sexual abuse and sexual harassment data pursuant to the definitions and solicitation of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) Survey of Sexual Victimization, which accounts for the following five categories: nonconsensual sexual acts, abusive sexual contacts, sexual harassment, staff sexual misconduct, and staff sexual harassment. While the number of sexual abuse allegations may appear alarming 2015 it must be noted that 5 out of the 6 allegations were determined to be unfounded by investigation and the remaining allegation was unsubstantiated. As noted, a decrease in number of allegations were reported and investigated in 2016 from 2015. With that being noted an effort to reduce the number of allegations will be continued to be pursued.



Problem Areas:

While analyzing the information from both years the following problem areas were as follows.

1. Although the number of sexual abuse allegations went down in 2016 from 2015 it should be noted that the reports of sexual harassment increased from 6 to 8.
2. The culture of consensual relationships among the inmate population although not PREA related and are prohibited by institutional rules have consequences when the relationship ends and is no longer consensual. The allegation for sexual abuse made in 2016 was between two inmates that were admittedly in a consensual relationship during their incarceration together.
3. Four out of the 14 sexual harassment allegations were made against one inmate.

Although the incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment are low, a continued diligent effort to “Zero Tolerance” is warranted as every substantiated allegation is a cause for concern.

Corrective Actions:

To ensure the culture of zero tolerance of sexual abuse and sexual harassment DWCRS is dedicated to a continued vigilance in the implementation of best practice and the requirements of the PREA standards.

The following are corrective actions completed:

1. Revised and updated DWCRS PREA policy.
2. Although PREA does not include consensual sexual relationships and are prohibited at DWCRS, historically these relationships cause disturbance among the inmate population by one inmate being

dominate over the other and in the past have led to acts of physical violence. A benefit at DWCRC of having a relatively small population does give staff an advantage in monitoring the interactions and often can intervene and attempt to redirect the relationships between inmates if inappropriate attachments are detected.

3. As budget allowed an upgrade to cameras by replacing outdated cameras with new cameras and additional cameras where needed.
4. Removing solid doors on storage areas, housing unit laundry rooms and janitor closets were replaced by metal gates to enhance visibility to those areas.
5. Repeated allegations of sexual harassment against an single inmate warranted further assessment to behavior, inmate was placed in individual counseling.

Conclusion:

DWCRC remains committed to continuous evaluation of culture of offenders and staff to remain in full compliance with all requirements of PREA standards. This is accomplished by immediate staff response to reports of all allegations for sexual abuse and sexual harassment, timely investigation and staff and offender education.