



Department of
Youth Services

Message from DYS Director Harvey Reed
DYS Completes First PREA Audits
September 18, 2014

Dear Staff and Stakeholders:

There is a lot of good news documented in recent Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Audits. The final reports indicate that Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility (IRJCF), Lighthouse Youth Center – Paint Creek (LYC-PC), Hocking Valley Community Residential Center (HVCRC), Lucas County Youth Treatment Center, North Central Ohio Rehabilitation Center (NCORC), and Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility (PMCJF) fully complied with PREA standards. Results from the Central Ohio Youth Center are pending.

PREA audits are an important way to ensure that we take good care of the youth in our custody. We want our youth, their families, and the community to know that youth will be safe in a facility. The audits provide a way for us to examine trends, boost preventative efforts and use best practices.

Certified PREA Auditor Dan McGehee had the following to say about IRJCF: “We talked with youth and staff. Staff from front door to back door did not disappoint. We know you take this seriously. We reviewed files and looked at technology. We saw demonstrations, found staff knowledgeable about PREA, and found posters on living units. Staff know how to respond and that it is everyone’s duty.”

Regarding LYC-PC, Certified PREA Auditor Tracy Maxwell wrote the following: “During the two-day on-site visit, twelve staff, including those from all three shifts, were randomly selected and interviewed. All interviews validated staff knowledge of PREA standards and their responsibilities as first responders.”

Certified PREA Auditor Flora Boyd shared that within the CCFs: “Residents were well informed of their right to be free from sexual abuse and harassment, how to report sexual abuse and harassment, and the services that the community based victims advocate provides.”

Passing a PREA audit is a significant accomplishment. All of the staff at these sites as well as staff at DYS central office are to be commended for their efforts.

If you would like to review the any of the PREA audit reports, please [click here](#).