

PREA Policy

What is PREA?

The Prison Rape Elimination Act ([PREA](#)) was enacted by the US Congress to address sexual abuse in confinement.

Portland House has a zero-tolerance for sexual assault, abuse and harassment. All clients have the right to be free from sexual assault, abuse and harassment. Portland House has a zero-tolerance from retaliation for reporting sexual assault, abuse and harassment. All clients have the right to be free from retaliation for reporting sexual assault, abuse and harassment.

Client safety has always been a priority within Lutheran Social Service of MN Portland House. We approach [the Prison Rape Elimination Act \(PREA\)](#) by the book, and in addition, use current best practices in community corrections to help prevent sexual abuse. For example, Portland House uses trauma informed care guidelines from the Ambit Network, gender-responsive classifications and treatment tools, motivational interviewing techniques, and individualized case management practices to run safe facilities. Portland House's existing policies and practices integrate PREA best practices to help prevent sexual abuse and improve response if abuse occurs. Portland House's approach prioritizes staff training, clear policies and procedures that protect the safety and wellbeing of clients.

Portland House has a policy that does not allow youthful inmates to enter the program. Only men age 18 and older may be admitted into the program.

Portland House investigates all allegations of sexual misconduct involving persons residing at Portland House. Portland House's PREA Coordinator is the main point of contact for any allegation however reports can be made in several ways. Upon knowledge of a report Portland House will begin coordinated care with a victim centered care approach. Investigations and follow up will be conducted by Minneapolis Police Department, Portland House PREA Coordinator and supervisory staff, MN DOC, Hennepin County Probation and/or LSS of MN. Any person may make a report on the behalf of any client.

Portland House contracts with the Sexual Violence Center to provide support for clients who have been victimized by sexual abuse. SVC can be reached at 612-871-5100 or 612-871-5111 24 hours a day. Portland House does not allow anyone with a history of sexual offenses to enter the program.

Call 612-331-1087 to report client sexual abuse at Portland House.

Anyone may also report client sexual abuse directly to any staff, case manager, program manager, PREA coordinator, or program director in person; call LSS of MN directly #651-642-5990, in writing to Portland House 514 11th Ave SE Minneapolis, MN 55414 or to the Minneapolis Police Department through 911.

Additional Resources

<http://www.prearesourcecenter.org>

<http://www.sexualviolencecenter.org>

Preventing and Responding to Corrections-Based Sexual Abuse: A Guide for Community Corrections Professionals by Carrie E. Abner, Jane Browning, and John Clark

http://www.wcl.american.edu/endsilence/documents/PreventingandRespondingtoCorrectionsBasedSexualAbuse_AGuideforCommunityCorrectionsProfession.pdf



Forging New Collaborations: A Guide for Rape Crisis, Domestic Violence, and Disability Organizations by Nancy Smith and Sandra Harrell

<http://www.vera.org/content/forging-new-collaborations-guide> [e-crisis-domestic-violence-and-disability-organizations](#)

