

## Volunteers of America Mid-States 2021 PREA Annual Report

July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021

In accordance with 28 CFR 115.288-115.289

Volunteers of America Mid-States, Inc. (VOA Mid-States) has historically embraced the Community Confinement Standard and principles of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA). VOA Mid-States has required staff, clients, volunteers, and contractors to complete initial and refresher PREA trainings. Our policies and training curriculum prohibit inappropriate contact or relationships between staff and clients, including prevention and elimination of possible sexual misconduct or other inappropriate sexual behaviors within our facilities. Our Liberty Place facility-programs (formerly Halfway Back Program) has held the primary responsibility of ensuring that the PREA Community Confinement Standard is followed since 2013. The Liberty Place facility-programs serves a maximum of 50 residents through the Department of Corrections in providing Residential Treatment for Addiction Recovery. In accordance with standard 115.287, all data collected, reviewed and aggregated in this report is from the fiscal year 2021 that is July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021.

At the close of the fiscal year 2020, VOA Mid-States has continued to meet the criteria for Community Confinement standards in our residential treatment facility. We continue to serve residents involved in the justice system through the Department of Corrections. We have maintained compliance with PREA. Our PREA policy continues to cover our residential treatment Programs.

### Identifying Problem Areas/Corrective Action

Our Residential Treatment programs require a staffing plan to ensure safety and security of residents. The plan is reviewed and updated annually. Unfortunately, we were unable to update the staffing plan for FY2021 due to the public health emergency- COVID. During this time, VOA Mid States, and the Department of Corrections put a hold and strict limitations on referrals and admissions, per CDC guidelines. Majority of staff worked from home or laid off during this time. In 2019 VOA Mid- States had one (1) PREA incident. The incident was reported and investigated per the policy and standard. The incident was not substantiated. There has been zero incidents since 2019.

### Assessment of Agency Progress in Addressing Sexual Misconduct

We continue to monitor, review, and assess our PREA policies and procedures, which includes all elements of the Community Confinement Standard. During FY2021 we made progress in prevention planning by offering extended training on healthy boundaries, providing trauma informed care, and increasing knowledge on how to recognize signs of sexual misconduct. Staff, residents, volunteers, and contractors must follow VOA Mid-States' PREA Policy and Procedures 300.24 on how to report sexual misconduct, abuse, or harassment. Reporting procedures are also covered within the PREA training curriculum.

VOA Mid-States has continued to optimize our previous implementations of ensuring onboarding training, and refresher trainings with staff, contractors, and volunteers. We have also exceeded the PREA risk assessment standard 115.241(b) that states that residents shall be screened within 72hrs of arrival. We assure that resident's receive PREA risk assessments within 24hrs of admission.



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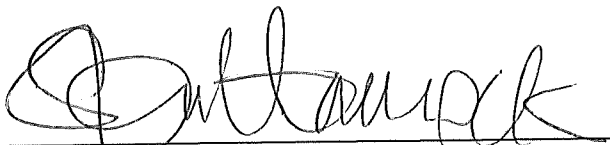


<b>Community Confinement Facilities Total Allegations of Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>2017- 2018</b>	<b>2018- 2019</b>	<b>2019- 2020</b>	<b>2020- 2021</b>
Substantiated	0	1	1	0
Unsubstantiated	1	2	2	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Community Confinement Facilities Total Allegations of Sexual Harassment</b>	<b>2017- 2018</b>	<b>2018- 2019</b>	<b>2019- 2020</b>	<b>2020- 2021</b>
Substantiated	0	0	0	0
Unsubstantiated	0	0	1	0
Unfounded	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

VOA Mid-States continues to train and educate staff, residents, contractors and volunteers on PREA standards. We are confident that our trainings, education, and monitoring helps to ensure that we are adhering to our zero tolerance of sexual misconduct policies and procedures. Our last audit was in 2018, and the next audit is due in October 2022.

Approved by:



Jennifer Hancock, President and CEO



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