



## BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

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# 2019 Annual PREA Report

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The Barnes County Correctional Facility (BCCF) is committed to maintaining the requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 and enhancing the safety and security for BCCF residents. The BCCF is currently preparing for their PREA audit for 2021.

This report is a summary of the agency's efforts in PREA compliance from 2019. The BCCF examines all collected agency data in an effort to continually improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse detection, prevention, and response.

### **Purpose:**

This document serves as an annual review to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection, response policies, practices, and training in the BCCF pursuant to §115.88 and §115.89 of the national PREA standards. Therein, the BCCF is required to:

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;
  - c. Preparing an annual report of its findings.
2. Compare the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years and provide an assessment of the agency's progress in addressing sexual abuse.
3. Publish an annual report on the BCCF website of its findings and corrective actions for each facility as well as for the agency as a whole.

### **Aggregated Data:**

The BCCF collects data from the referrals of investigation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment; both resident on resident and staff/contractor/volunteer on resident. The data in this section contains the aggregated data for calendar year 2019.

During 2018, the facility received no allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. During 2019, the facility received no allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.

**Problem Areas/Corrective Action:**

In August the BCCF completed their first PREA audit and was found to be in complete compliance of all 45 standards. They are continually evaluating their new processes and making adjustments to ensure the best possible program to prevent, detect, and respond to allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment. The leadership of the BCCF is dedicated to on-going monitoring and corrective action in order to achieve and maintain full PREA compliance and, most importantly, to maximize the sexual safety of the inmates in the Barnes County Correctional Facility.

While implementing the culture change is a long and difficult process, the BCCF is committed to integrating the PREA standards into all policies and procedures. As importantly, the BCCF is committed to ensuring all staff understand the importance of compliance with PREA and the impact this important act has on the inmates. The BCCF continues to strive for the highest level of sexual safety for the inmates in our care.

The following are corrective actions completed at the agency level:

1. Updated the BCCF PREA policy.
2. Started prepping for PREA audit to be completed in 2021.
3. Adjusted trained for all staff on the PREA standards and their role in gaining and maintaining PREA compliance.
4. 3 staff attend PREA Investigator training in April 2019 and became certified.
5. Updated objective screening tools for assessing the inmates.
6. Reviewed and updated all other policies that are affected by the PREA standards.
7. Placed 3 additional cameras to cover blind spots on the second floor and first floor.
8. PREA Coordinator attended PREA conference in Bismarck to keep up to date on changes within PREA.

**Conclusion:**

It is the goal of the BCCF to provide the highest possible level of safety to those in our care in all ways. We remain committed to the continuous demonstration of full compliance with all requirements of the PREA standards. In doing so, we feel we will provide our residents a safe, secure environment where they can work towards change and successful transition into the community.