

FY 18

PREA ANNUAL  
REPORT

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PREACH  
OUTREACH

 GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



# INTRODUCTION

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003<sup>1</sup> was signed into federal law with the purpose of providing for the analysis of incidence and effects of prison rape in Federal, State, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape. In 2012, the Bureau of Prisons published standardized guidelines promulgated by the Attorney General of the United States. PREA applies to all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders.

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) maintains a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and harassment within the agency's one detention center and one treatment facility.

All sexual abuse and sexual harassment allegations are investigated. Each case is documented on an incident report and entered into DYRS's juvenile management system (FamCare). Allegations are administratively investigated and, depending on the nature of the alleged incident, can be referred for criminal investigation. Upon completion of each investigation, appropriate disciplinary action is taken against the perpetrator. Where criminal intent is discovered, the case is presented to the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) for prosecution. The supervisory youth development representative will conduct a call and provide information, then either the superintendent or deputy superintendent will determine if MPD needs to be activated. Case files of PREA allegations of a criminal nature are maintained for a period of at least seven (7) years upon completion of the investigation.

It is important to note that DYRS continually seeks to improve the reporting and investigation methods to ensure the highest level of compliance, as well as swift corrective action when needed. The agency's zero-tolerance policy aims to protect all youth under DYRS jurisdiction from sexual harassment and abuse, but also protects anyone who reports or cooperates with an on-going investigation from retaliation.

This report summarizes allegations by the calendar year (CY) and includes CY 16, CY 17, and CY 18 with CY 18 being the focus.

DYRS compiles and investigates PREA allegations in four (4) major categories: 1) Staff-to-Youth Abuse; 2) Staff-to-Youth Harassment; 3) Youth-to-Youth Abuse, and 4) Youth-to-Youth Harassment.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Survey and Sexual Victimization (SSV) defines four investigation outcomes. Upon completion of the investigation, all allegations are subject to one of the four dispositions:

1. **Substantiated:** the event was investigated and determined to have occurred, based on a preponderance of the evidence (28 C.F.R. § 115.72);

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<sup>1</sup> Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, 45 U.S.C. §§ 15601-15609 (2003).

2. Unsubstantiated: the investigation concluded that evidence was insufficient to determine whether or not the event occurred; (28 C.F.R. § 115.72)
3. Unfounded: the investigation determined the event did not occur; and
4. Investigation Open: evidence is still being gathered, processed or evaluated, and a final determination has not yet been made

## AGENCY OVERVIEW

DYRS is the District of Columbia's cabinet-level juvenile justice agency. DYRS administers detention, commitment, and aftercare services for youth held under its care in its facilities or residing in the DC community. DYRS is actively involved in several innovative programming models, collaborating with locally and nationally recognized juvenile justice centers in the following types of programs: juvenile justice, a continuum of care, alternative sentencing, supervised citation release, and supportive living.

The DYRS secure program workforce is comprised of over 289 direct care personnel and over 100 non-secured staff, which includes medical, mental health, and food service.

## MISSION

The mission of DYRS is to provide court-involved youth the opportunity to become more productive citizens by building on the strengths of youths and their families in the least restrictive, most homelike environment consistent with public safety.


## VISION

DYRS's vision is to provide the nation's best continuum of care for court-involved youth and their families through a wide range of programs that emphasize individual strengths, personal accountability, public safety, skill development, family involvement, and community support.

# DATA

**Figure 1: Demographics.**

The below collective data shows the basic demographics for the populations served in each facility on the final day of the Calendar Year (CY) as well as annual admissions and discharges for each placement for the full CY.

	CY 16			CY 17				CY 18			
	YSC	NB	TOTAL	YSC	NB	HOPE HOUSE	TOTAL	YSC	NB	HOPE HOUSE	TOTAL
TOTAL CENSUS DECEMBER 31	81	44	125	43	35	3	81	54	43	4	101
MALE	58	35	93	34	31	2	67	45	0	2	47
FEMALE	23	9	32	9	4	1	14	9	43	2	54
AGE 17 AND UNDER	75	31	106	40	26	3	69	51	30	4	85
AGE 18-20	6	13	19	3	9	0	12	3	13	0	16
AGE 21 AND OVER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANNUAL TOTAL ADMISSIONS	4.642	309	4.951	3.945	289	46	4.280	3.229	118	95	3.442
ANNUAL TOTAL DISCHARGES	4.642	297	4.919	3.981	298	43	4.322	3.227	111	94	3.432
ANNUAL TOTAL UNIQUE YOUTH ADMITTED	1.926	171	1.938	1.670	167	29	1.688	1.355	97	53	1.361
ANNUAL TOTAL UNIQUE YOUTH DISCHARGED	1.937	155	1.951	1.691	183	29	1.724	1.369	86	54	1.384

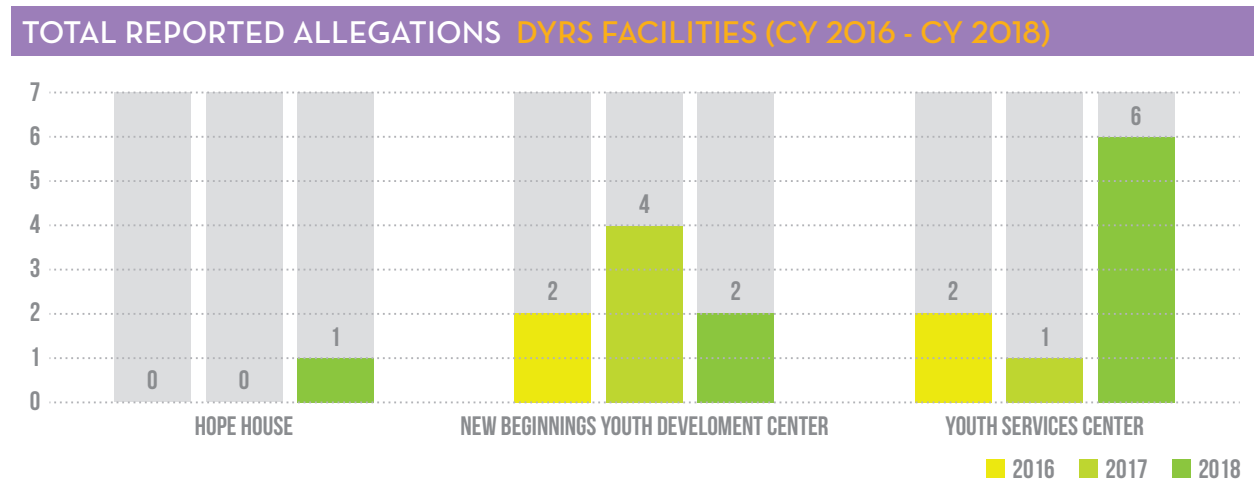
**Admissions:** The start of a new enrollment

**Discharges:** The end of an enrollment

**Unique Youth:** A count of the total youth as opposed to counting a youth each time they entered/left the facility

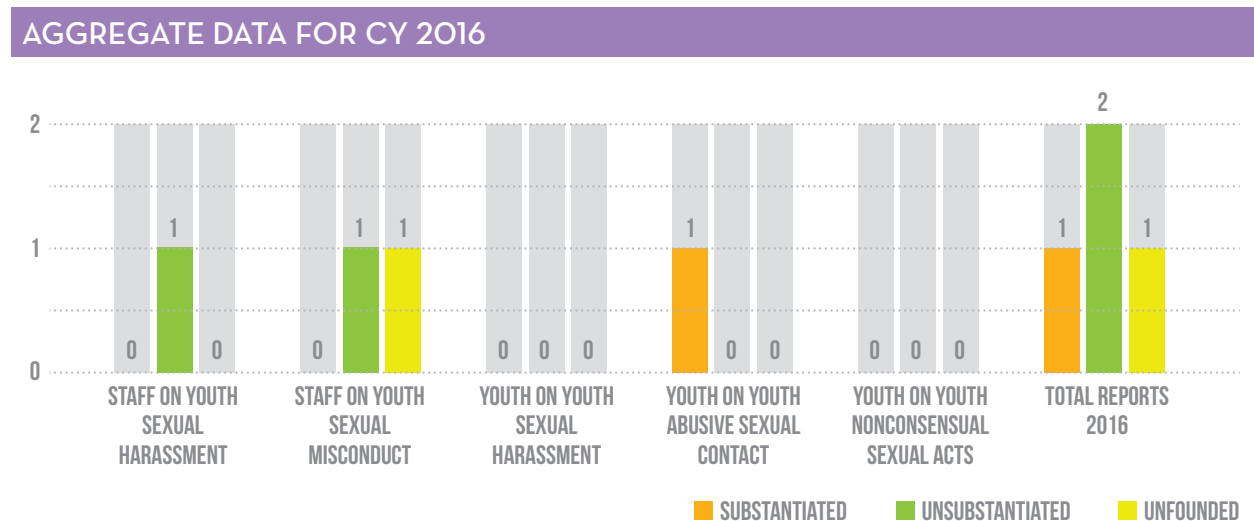
**Figure 2: Total allegations CY 16 - CY 18 by placement.**

Between January 2016 and December 2018, there have been a total of 18 reported allegations in DYRS-operated facilities and placements, including the Youth Services Center (YSC), the New Beginnings Youth Development Center (NBYDC), and Hope House. With a total of six claims, YSC is the location with the majority of the allegations in CY 18.



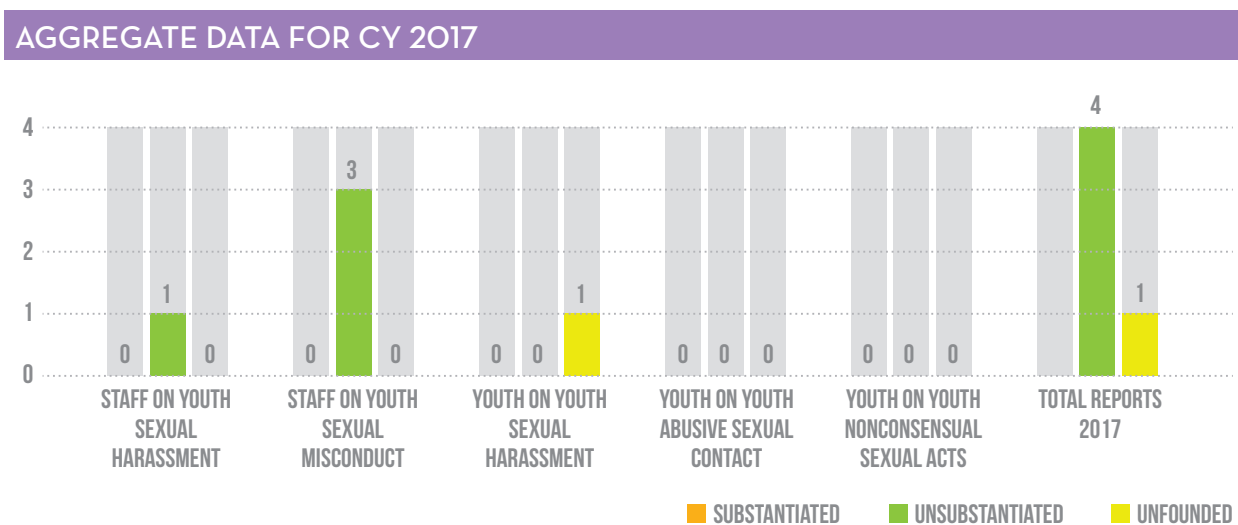
**Figure 3: Aggregate data for CY 16 by category.**

There was a total of four allegations in CY 16. One allegation of Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Contact was Substantiated.



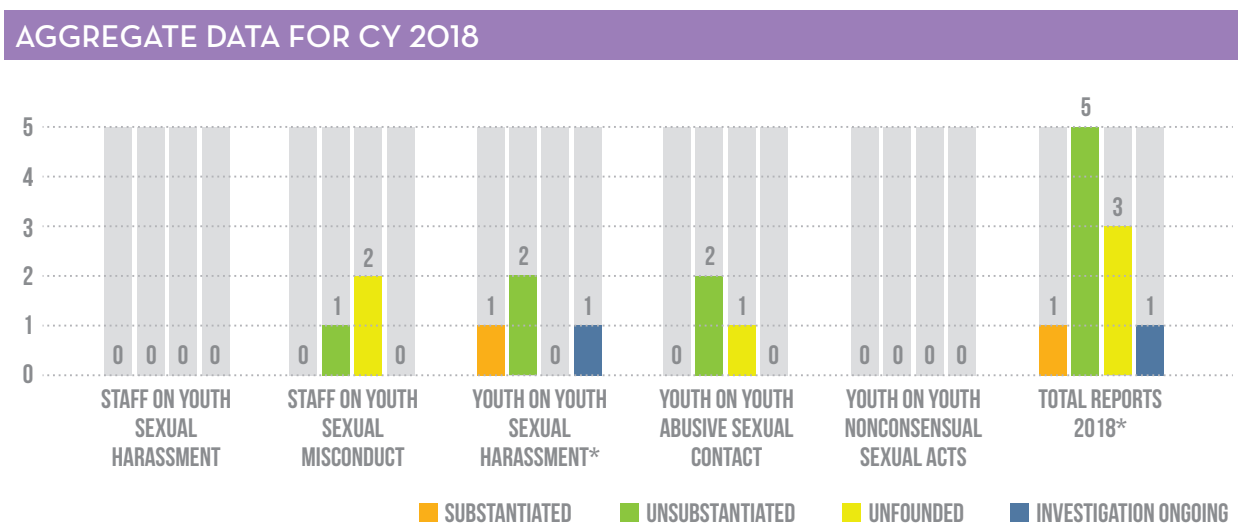
**Figure 4: Aggregate data for CY 17 by category.**

There was a total of five allegations in CY 17. There were no allegations substantiated.



**Figure 5: Aggregate data for CY 18 by category.**

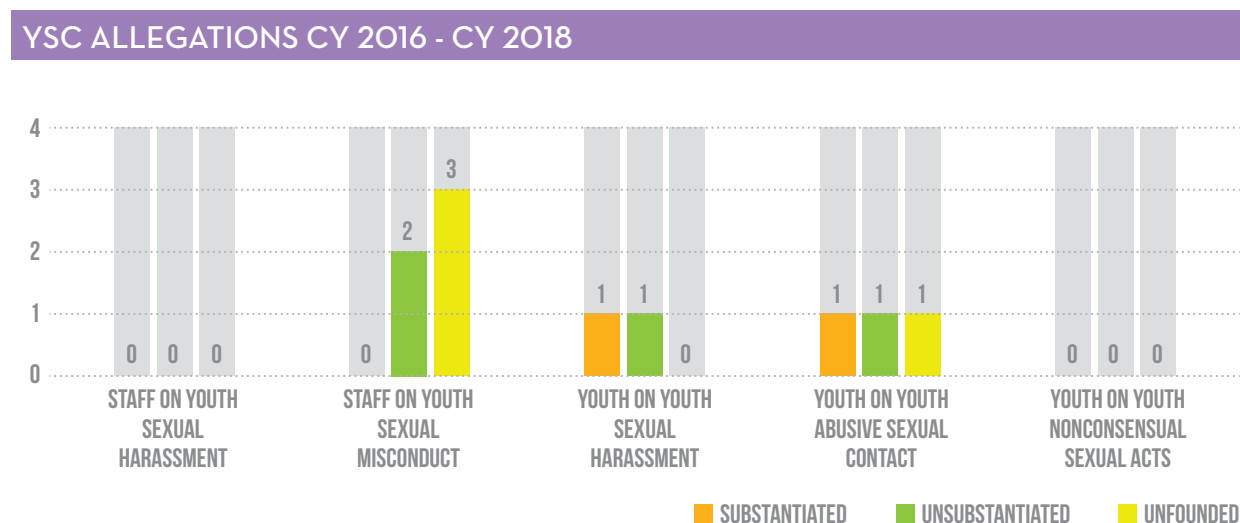
In CY 18, DYRS had a total of nine allegations in the agency-operated placements. One allegation of Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment was substantiated, and one additional case for the same type of allegation is still ongoing. In one case of Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment in CY 18, there were two alleged perpetrators resulting in two different findings for the same case.



\*The 2018 Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment category includes two findings for one case, involving two perpetrators, (1st alleged perpetrator - substantiated, 2nd alleged perpetrator - unsubstantiated). Therefore, in totality there were nine actual reports.

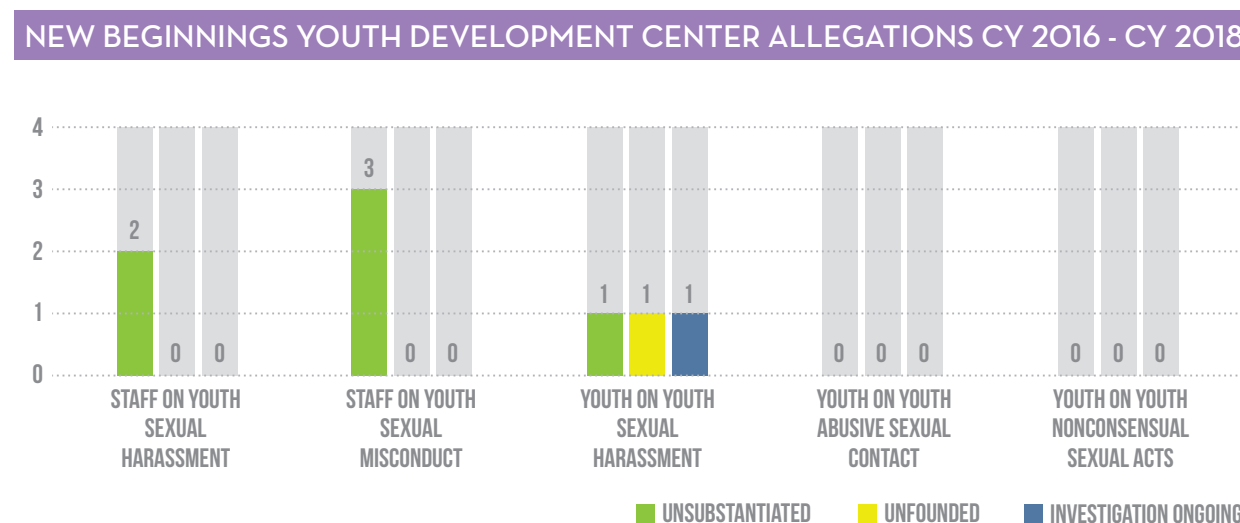
**Figure 6: Allegations at YSC CY 16 - CY 18.**

Since CY 16, there have been two substantiated claims at the Youth Services Center.



**Figure 7: Allegations at NB for CY 16 - CY 18.**

Since CY 16, there have been no substantiated allegations at New Beginnings.

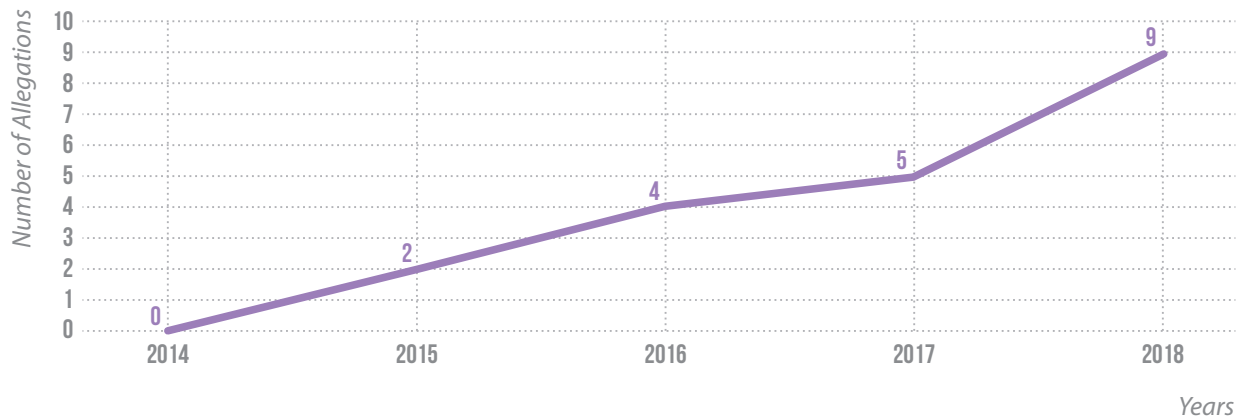




**Figure 8: Total Reported Allegations - Five-Year Trend.**

In CY 18, there was an increase in the number of Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment and Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Misconduct allegation due to increased youth educational groups, clear reporting processes for youth and staff, and additional reporting mechanisms for youth.

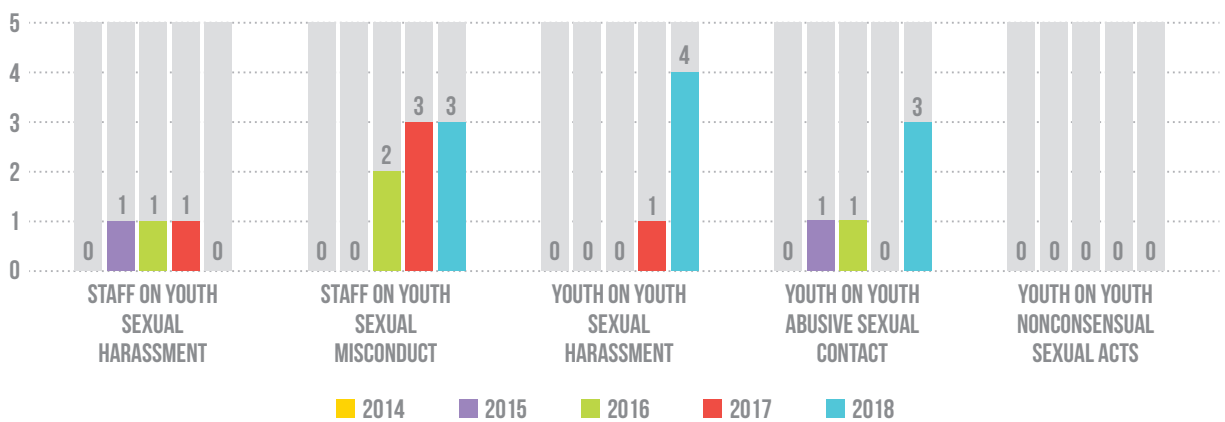
**FIVE (5) YEAR TREND OF ALLEGATIONS**



**Figure 9: Total Reported Allegations - Five-Year Trend by Category.**

In CY 18, there was an increase in the number of Youth on Youth Sexual Harassment and Youth on Youth Abusive Sexual Contact allegations. Despite the increase in allegations, as reported prior, only one of these allegations was substantiated.

**FIVE (5) YEAR TREND BY CATEGORY**



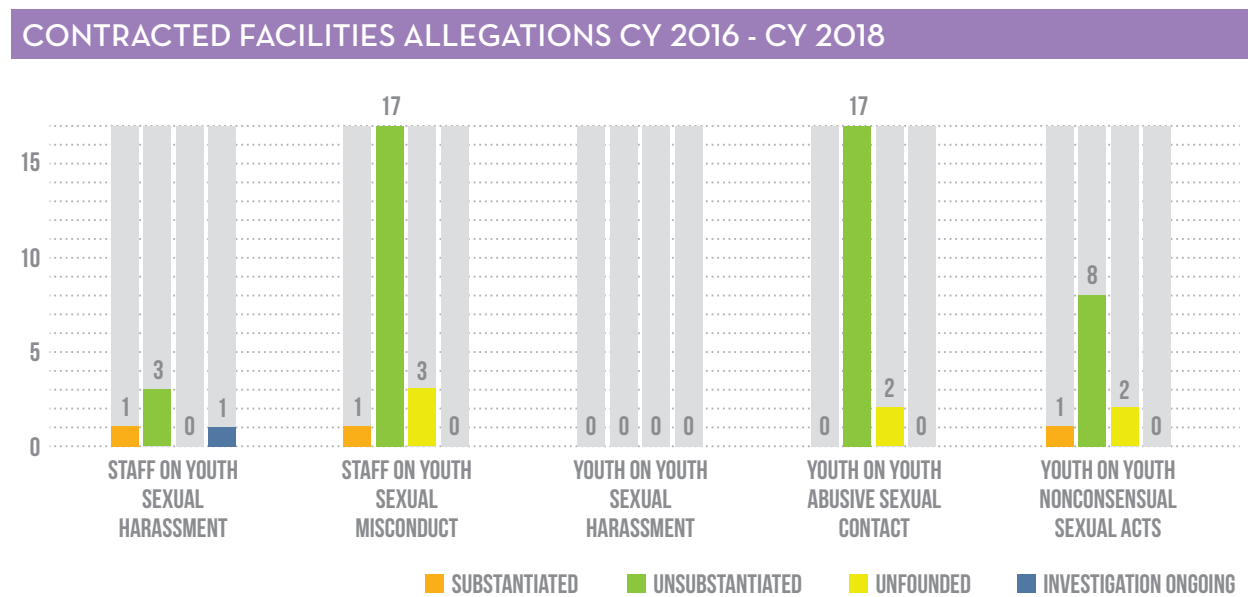
**Figure 10: Contracted Facilities Demographics.**

DYRS requested data from contracted secure facilities. At the time of this report, DYRS had received data from three facilities. The below demographics represent the total population served by those facilities, not just DYRS youth.

	CY 16	CY 17	CY 18
TOTAL CENSUS DECEMBER 31	615	537	401
MALE	590	512	400
FEMALE	25	25	67
AGE 17 AND UNDER	511	449	364
AGE 18-20	104	88	70
AGE 21 AND OVER	0	0	0
ANNUAL TOTAL ADMISSIONS	973	895	774
ANNUAL TOTAL DISCHARGES	1015	972	875

**Figure 11: Contracted Facilities Allegations CY 16 - CY 18**

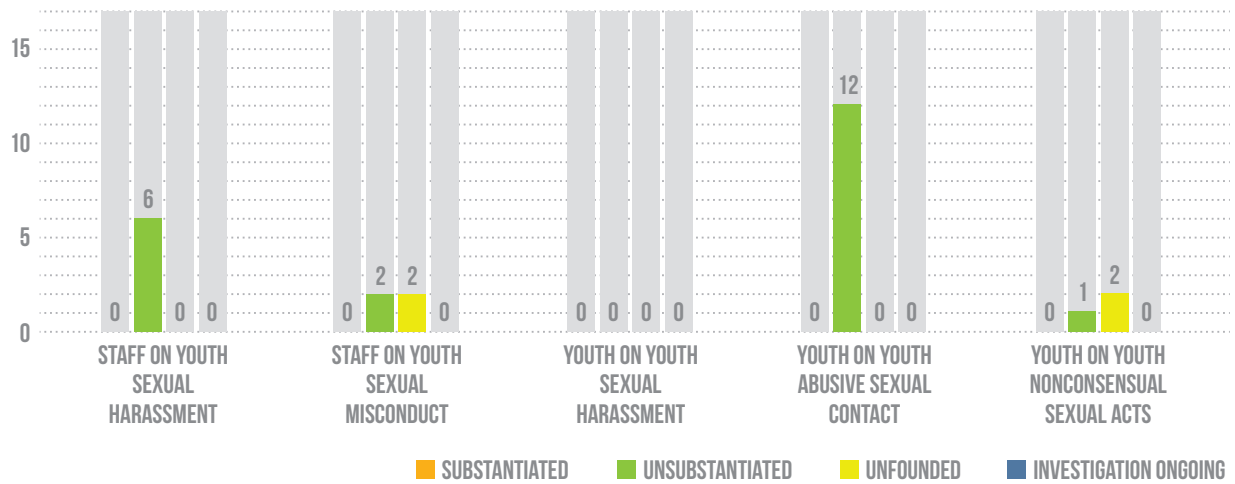
There was a total of 59 allegations over three years for the facilities that DYRS contracts with. As above, these numbers reflect all young people, not just DYRS youth. Of those 59, four have been substantiated.



**Figure 12: Contracted Facilities Allegations CY 18**

In CY 18, there were 25 allegations collectively, of which none were substantiated.

CONTRACTED FACILITIES ALLEGATIONS CY 2018



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the 2017 – 2018 calendar year, DYRS completed the following PREA-related initiatives:

- Approximately 289 direct care staff completed an initial and annual refresher for PREA 101 training. All staff are required to attend new hire and refresher PREA training.
- 289 direct care staff received annual cross-gender pat search training. All staff are required to attend new hire and refresher cross-gender pat search training.
- DYRS invested \$10,000 dollars in the development of informational PREA posters for youth. The “Announce Yourself” posters were installed in all units throughout the Youth Services Center and New Beginnings Youth Development Center to enhance the PREA educational value for young people.
- The posters were installed at all unit entrances throughout both facilities to ensure youth are aware of cross-gender staff entering unit.
- PREA Standards Quick Series pocket guides were purchased and distributed to staff to improve staff knowledge and their understanding of the standards.
- PREA Quick Reference cards were created, purchased, and distributed to all direct care staff. Staff are required to carry these cards on their person. The quick reference cards provide quick access to “First Responder Duties” and “Reporting Procedures.”
- PREA English and Spanish orientation DVDs were purchased, delivered, and are routinely shown to youth at both facilities as part of the intake process to ensure youth are knowledgeable of their rights.
- A PREA tri-fold youth education brochure was created, printed, delivered, and implemented at New Beginnings Youth Development Center and the Youth Services Center facility as a part of the intake process.
- DYRS Mental Health staff obtained Victim Advocate certification in November 2018. The in-house victim advocate is on call and available when emotional support is requested.
- DYRS entered into a partnership via a Memorandum of Agreement with the DC Rape Crisis Center to significantly increase expert resources and assistance.
- DYRS installed upgraded youth phones on all units in both facilities, which provides youth with unimpeded access to reporting agencies.
- DYRS invited the Moss Group to conduct a mock audit in May 2018. The focus of this audit was to show areas that meet or exceed the PREA standard and areas where improvements were needed. DYRS has utilized the findings to enhance our PREA Program.
- The Moss Group (TMG) in June 2018 conducted a Sexual Safety Assessment (SSA), which assessed how the facility’s culture and leadership support the sexual safety of residents.

Residents interviewed stated they feel safe from sexual abuse and sexual harassment. All staff reported feeling extremely safe in this facility and indicated that they believe the residents are also safe.

## AUDITS

DYRS participated in the PREA's 2nd Cycle, Year 3 Federal PREA Audit. The audit reviewed one detention center and one treatment center in September 2018 and DYRS is now working on the corrective action plan.

## PHYSICAL PLANT IMPROVEMENTS

- NBYDC – Purchased doors with windows to replace solid doors in the Juvenile Justice Institutional Counselor (JJIC) office and the Public Defender's Office, allowing for protective oversight while residents are engaged in private meetings with staff.
- NBYDC – A portable desk and laptop were installed in the intake area to provide new admits to ensure more privacy when completing the Victim or Perpetrator Assessment Screener.

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) will continue its commitment to providing for the safety and wellbeing of the youth that the agency serves. DYRS continues to invest resources in educating our youth, training our staff, modifying our operation procedures, and upgrading our physical plants to support the prevention, detection, reporting, and investigation of all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

# PREACH OUTREACH

## OUR TEAM

**PREA Coordinator** N. Fisher, DOJ Certified Auditor

**YSC PREA Compliance Manager** K. Richardson, SYDR

**NB PREA Compliance Manager** E. Waiters, SYDR

**PREA Training Facilitator** M. Hill, YDR



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DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH  
REHABILITATION SERVICES

 **GOVERNMENT OF THE  
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