



2024 Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Annual Report

VISIONQUEST NATIONAL, LTD

Introduction

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was enacted in 2003 to eliminate sexual abuse and harassment in confinement settings. PREA's implementing regulations, the "Final National Standards to Prevent, Detect and Respond to Prison Rape," were published by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and became effective on June 20, 2012. This federal act mandated compliance for juvenile programs starting August 20, 2012.

VisionQuest is committed to full compliance with PREA standards to ensure the safety and well-being of the youth in our care. Historically, VisionQuest has reported and maintained records of all abuse allegations, exercising many PREA practices prior to its federal mandate. This proactive approach has facilitated the gathering and assessment of data as prescribed by PREA standards.

Agency Description

VisionQuest offers residential, community, and in-home programs to youth and their families in Arizona, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Texas. These programs serve youth and their families in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, including youth with mental health and substance abuse diagnoses.

In Delaware, VisionQuest operates two 10-bed Residential Alternative to Detention (RAD) programs for males and females. To demonstrate compliance with PREA, juvenile residential facilities like those operated by VisionQuest must be audited every three years. VisionQuest completed its most recent PREA audit in 2023 and continues to meet all PREA standards.

Data Collection and Review

VisionQuest collects data on every allegation of sexual abuse and sexual harassment, regardless of the outcome of the investigation. Each allegation is reported to the respective state's child abuse hotline and law enforcement agencies. Upon completion of investigations, a review is conducted by facility administration and corporate members to identify and implement any necessary changes to policies or practices to prevent future incidents. A report with findings and recommendations is produced and maintained on file.

Definitions

(As prescribed by PREA and the Survey for Sexual Victims)

- **Youth-on-Youth Sexual Misconduct (Consensual Sexual Acts):** Sexual contact where one or more youth engage in or attempt to engage in consensual sexual acts with another youth.
- **Youth-on-Youth Non-Consensual Sexual Acts:** Sexual contact without consent, including penetration or contact between genitalia, mouth, or anal areas.



- **Youth-on-Youth Abusive Sexual Contact:** Intentional touching without consent of intimate body parts, excluding incidental contact during physical altercations.
- **Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment:** Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or derogatory comments of a sexual nature.
- **Staff Sexual Misconduct:** Any sexual behavior directed toward a youth by staff, including romantic relationships or inappropriate touching.
- **Staff Sexual Harassment:** Repeated verbal statements or gestures of a sexual nature by staff toward a youth.
- **Substantiated Allegation:** An allegation investigated and determined to have occurred.
- **Unsubstantiated Allegation:** An allegation investigated with insufficient evidence to make a final determination.
- **Unfounded Allegation:** An allegation investigated and determined not to have occurred.

Facility Statistics

January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

| VisionQuest Program | # In Care on 1/1/24 | # Admissions | # Discharges | # In Care on 12/31/24 | Total Number Served |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| RAD-Milford | 3 | 83 | 80 | 6 | 86 |
| RAD-Newark | 2 | 88 | 82 | 7 | 90 |
| Total | 5 | 171 | 162 | 13 | 176 |

Demographics

| VisionQuest Program | Males | Females | Other | LGBTQI+ | Age 14 & Under | Age 15-18 |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| RAD-Milford | 70 | 16 | 0 | 4 | 20 | 66 |
| RAD-Newark | 78 | 12 | 0 | 6 | 19 | 71 |
| Total | 148 | 28 | 0 | 10 | 39 | 137 |



Comparison of Allegations: 2023 vs. 2024

Staff-on-Youth Sexual Misconduct

| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Youth-on-Youth Sexual Misconduct

| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Youth-on-Youth Non-Consensual Sexual Acts

| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Youth-on-Youth Abusive Sexual Contact

| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Youth-on-Youth Sexual Harassment



| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Staff Sexual Harassment

| Year | Total Allegations | Substantiated | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Investigation Ongoing |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Analysis

- **Staff-on-Youth Sexual Misconduct:** In 2024, there were zero allegations of staff-on-youth sexual misconduct at RAD-Milford. This represents a decrease from 2023, where there was one allegation.
- **Youth-on-Youth Sexual Misconduct:** In 2024, there was one allegation of youth-on-youth sexual misconduct, which was unsubstantiated. This is a decrease from 2023, where there were 6 allegations.

Corrective Actions and Recommendations for Improvement

No Corrective Actions Needed.

Conclusion

VisionQuest remains dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of our residents. The decrease in allegations reflects our ongoing commitment to vigilance, staff training, and proactive prevention measures.

We will continue to uphold the highest standards by thoroughly reporting and investigating all allegations while striving for continuous improvement in meeting and exceeding PREA requirements. Our commitment to preventing, detecting, and responding to sexual abuse and harassment remains a top priority, reinforcing a safe and supportive environment within our facilities.



Reporting Mechanisms

Anyone who suspects a resident placed with VisionQuest is being sexually abused or sexually harassed is urged to contact one of the following entities (if it is an emergency and a child is in imminent danger, contact 9-1-1):

- **Delaware:**
 - Child Abuse Hotline: **1-800-292-9582**
 - https://kids.delaware.gov/fs/fs_can_report.shtml
 - Delaware State Police: <https://dsp.delaware.gov/locations/>
- **Pennsylvania:**
 - ChildLine (Child Abuse Hotline): **1-800-932-0313**
 - www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home
 - Pennsylvania State Police: <http://www.psp.pa.gov/contact/Pages/Station-Directory.aspx>
- **VisionQuest Hotline:**
 - Third-party grievances can be filed through the company website (www.vq.com) using the **VQ Report It** link or by contacting the program PREA Compliance Manager.

Any questions or concerns regarding the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) within VisionQuest programs should be directed to the agency PREA Coordinator at **936-241-1674**.

Approval

This report has been reviewed and approved for public release by the agency PREA Coordinator.

Jennifer Fletes

Jennifer Fletes

Vice President of Compliance

Date: 02/28/2025

Audit trail

Details

FILE NAME 2024 VQ PREA Annual Report - 2/28/25, 9:50 AM

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• Jennifer Fletes (jennifer.fletes@vq.com)

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