

Prison Rape Elimination Act

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act was to “provide for analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions and to provide information resources, and recommendations and funding to protect individuals from prison rape”. PREA requires institutions of confinement to adhere to stringent standards designed to prevent and respond to acts of sexual abuse or harassment.

Cambria County prison has a zero-tolerance policy toward sexual misconduct and there are several important policies and procedures in effect in order to educate inmates and staff about sexual misconduct. There are also specific policies and procedures in place to prevent and respond to reports of sexual misconduct. Inmates incarcerated at this institution receive information during the commitment and classification process explaining their rights with regard to sexual misconduct and also how to prevent and report sexual misconduct.

All reports of sexual abuse or sexual harassment result in an investigation by prison officials and/or a detective from the District attorney’s Office. When applicable, criminal charges will be filed, whether the abuser is an inmate or a staff member.

If you have any information about an inmate being sexually abused in this institution, report it!

Reports can be made by:

Calling Cambria County Prison’s PREA Compliance Manager, Deputy Warden Descavish, at 814-472-7330

Or by:

Calling the toll free HOTLINE at 1-844-429-5412

The HOTLINE is staffed 24 hours daily. All reports will be forwarded for investigation.

In the event an inmate is sexually assaulted, medical and mental health care will be provided along with support provisions from Victim’s Services of Cambria/Somerset Counties, treatment will be provided with no cost.

Cambria County prison is committed to providing care, custody and control in order to maintain a safe environment for all individuals incarcerated or employed at its institution.