

PREA

What is PREA?

Congress passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) in 2003 to prevent, detect, and appropriately respond to allegations of sexual abuse and sexual harassment while in a federal, state, or local facility.

LSI is dedicated to ensuring Beloit is a safe environment for you. LSI enforces a strict zero tolerance policy on any forms of abuse and harassment. If you, or someone you know, is experiencing sexual abuse or harassment, report it right away. Any reports will be taken seriously and an investigation will be conducted.

While at Beloit, you will be treated with dignity and respect at all times. You have the right to shower, dress, and use the facilities in privacy. Staff will knock and announce themselves prior to entering your bedroom or the restroom and shower. Our most important job at Beloit is to keep you safe. If staff members are concerned about your safety while you are in a private area, they will do a verbal check and, at times, may be required to visually check on your safety. Staff will first knock and announce themselves in these events as well. You will never be subject to a pat down or strip search conducted by LSI staff. Staff may complete a visual search or use a metal detector if there is reasonable suspicion of contraband, but they will not touch or examine you without clothing.

How to Report Abuse or Harassment

You can report an incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment to any staff, volunteer, medical, or mental health staff. All forms of reports, whether made verbally, in writing, anonymously, or through a third party, will be accepted. You can also make a report by:

- Completing a grievance slip and placing it in the PREA box located in your community
- Reporting to the PREA Coordinator or PREA Compliance Manager
- Telling a family member, friend, legal counsel, or anyone else outside the facility. They can make a report on your behalf by calling **319.859.3586**
- Submitting a report on someone's behalf, or someone at the facility can report for you using the ways listed here

Reports can also be made to the following advocate services:

- Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services
 - www.polkcountyiowa.gov
 - Crisis Line **515.286.3600**
- Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault
 - www.iowacasa.org
 - **800.284.7821**

You will be provided with a pamphlet on sexual abuse, harassment, your rights, and reporting information when you arrive at Beloit. They are also located near the PREA box in each community, the main office areas, and you can ask your therapist or medical staff on campus for additional copies.

Following an Investigation

If an investigation is conducted involving a report of sexual abuse or harassment towards you, LSI will inform you of the findings of that investigation, whether the investigation was done internally, externally, or both. Whether an allegation involved a staff or a peer, you will be informed on:

- The findings of the investigation
- The status of the staff member's employment (change of community, office location, no longer employed, etc.)
- If LSI learns a staff member or alleged abuser has been indicted on a charge related to sexual abuse while employed at LSI
- If LSI learns that a staff member or alleged abuser has been convicted on a charge related to sexual abuse while employed at LSI

LSI will take appropriate steps to ensure that any residents with any disabilities (including hearing or vision impairments, language barriers, etc.) have an equal opportunity to participate in all efforts made by LSI to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse or sexual harassment. LSI will provide written materials and access to interpreters when necessary.