

ANNUAL REPORT: AGENCY ADHERENCE TO PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT COMMUNITY CONFINMENT STANDARDS 2022

Pioneer Human Services Residential Services Division

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Introduction

In 2023, Pioneer Human Services (PHS) continued to operate under its three Federal Bureau of Prisons contracts for residential reentry centers in the state of Washington. This marked another year of dedicated commitment to upholding the highest standards of care and compliance with federal regulations, particularly the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). Pioneer recognizes the paramount importance of maintaining a safe, secure, and respectful environment for all individuals under its care, ensuring their successful reintegration into society.

Adhering to federal PREA standards has been an integral part of Pioneer's mission to promote rehabilitation and reduce recidivism. PHS remains steadfast in its efforts to create a culture of transparency, accountability, and zero-tolerance for any form of sexual abuse or harassment within its facilities. The organization has implemented a multifaceted approach to achieving and sustaining PREA compliance, encompassing rigorous staff training, comprehensive policies and procedures, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation processes.

Staff training is a cornerstone of Pioneer's PREA compliance strategy. In 2023, the organization continued to prioritize training programs designed to equip employees with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify, prevent, and respond to incidents of sexual misconduct. These programs not only cover the legal and ethical obligations under PREA but also emphasize the importance of fostering a respectful and supportive atmosphere for clients. By empowering its staff with the tools and understanding they need, Pioneer ensures that all individuals in their care are afforded the highest level of protection.

In addition to these initiatives, Pioneer Human Services places a strong emphasis on ongoing monitoring and evaluation to gauge the effectiveness of its PREA compliance efforts. This includes regular internal audits, external assessments, and client feedback mechanisms. By maintaining a continuous feedback loop, Pioneer can swiftly identify areas for improvement and implement corrective actions, thereby reinforcing its commitment to a safe and respectful environment for all individuals in its care.

Overall, Pioneer Human Services' unwavering dedication to upholding federal PREA standards in 2023 is a testament to its enduring commitment to the well-being and successful reintegration of its clients. Through comprehensive staff training, robust policy development, and vigilant monitoring processes, Pioneer ensures that its residential reentry centers continue to serve as beacons of safety, support, and rehabilitation for those seeking a fresh start in their journey toward reintegration into society.

Nicholas Moreau Director of Compliance – Agency PREA Coordinator

Federal Reentry Centers

Pioneer Human Services proudly stands as the exclusive contractor for all Federal Residential Reentry Centers (RRCs) in the state of Washington. These centers play a crucial role in the transition of individuals back into society after their involvement with the federal correctional system. Operating under the Federal Bureau of Prisons contracts, Pioneer's RRCs serve as vital stepping stones toward successful reintegration.

Pioneer Fellowship House Residential Reentry Center

The Pioneer Fellowship House Residential Reentry Center (PFH/RRC) is a 60-bed facility that houses both males and females located in Seattle, WA. PFH/RRC provides both in-house treatment as well as referrals within the community for substance abuse, job and life skills, educational opportunities and financial education.

Tacoma Residential Reentry Center

The Tacoma Residential Reentry Center (TRRC) houses both males and females who are in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, or under the supervision of the US Probation or the Pre-trial Services. The facility houses a maximum population of 35 residents.

Spokane Residential Reentry Center The Spokane Residential Reentry Center (SRRC), located in Spokane, WA, serves males and females who are in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, or under the supervision of the US Probation or the Pre-trial Services. The 40-bed facility houses males only, but supervises both males and females while on home confinement.







Agency PREA Allegations

Pioneer Human Services conducts thorough investigations and promptly reports all allegations related to violations of the PREA Act. The datasets presented below encompass all reported PREA allegations pertaining to our current Residential Reentry Center (RRC) programs.

In previous years, Pioneer Human Services included data from state work releases previously overseen by our organization. For the sake of clarity and ease of reporting, this information has been omitted from the current report. The entirety of the information provided in this report pertains exclusively to programs currently managed by Pioneer Human Services from the years 2014 through 2022.

During the year 2022, Pioneer Human Services received two reports of alleged violations of PREA standards. Following a comprehensive investigation, both reports were subsequently deemed unsubstantiated.

Definitions

Staff Sexual Harassment: This refers to any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a staff member directed towards a resident. This behavior creates a hostile or intimidating environment and is prohibited by PREA.

Resident Sexual Harassment: This pertains to any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a resident directed towards another resident. Similar to staff sexual harassment, this behavior creates a hostile or intimidating environment and is not allowed under PREA.

Resident Sexual Misconduct: This encompasses any sexual activity or contact between residents, regardless of whether it is consensual or non-consensual. It includes any sexual act or behavior that occurs without the explicit and voluntary consent of all parties involved.

Staff Sexual Misconduct: This encompasses any sexual activity, contact, or harassment by a staff member towards a resident, regardless of whether it is consensual or non-consensual. This includes any sexual act or behavior that occurs without the explicit and voluntary consent of all parties involved. Staff sexual misconduct is strictly prohibited by PREA and is subject to criminal penalties.

Agency PREA Allegation Annual Datasets

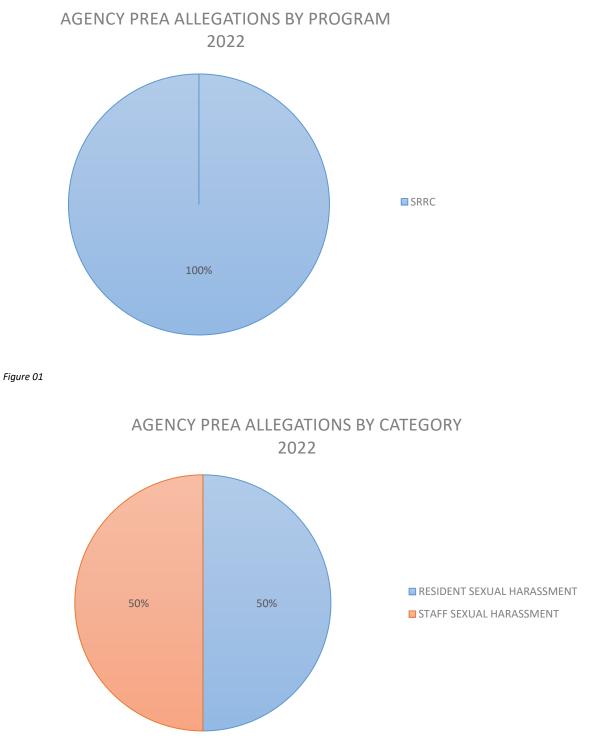


Figure 02

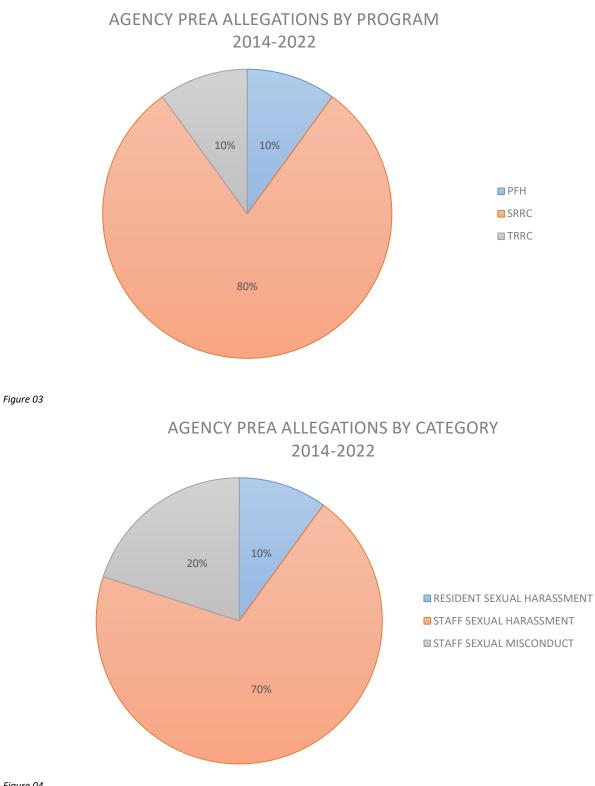
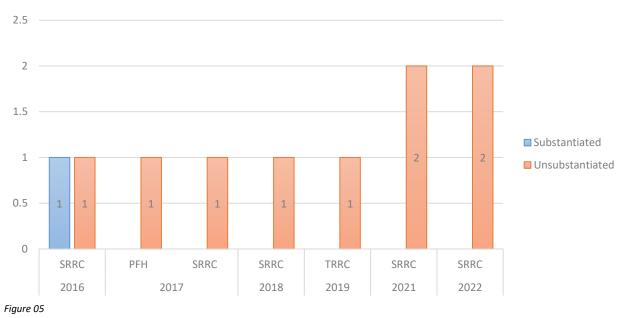


Figure 04



AGENCY PREA ALLEGATIONS 2014-2022

External PREA Audit

Commencing this year, Pioneer Human Services (PHS) will incorporate details pertaining to our external PREA Audits, which are conducted at each of our facilities on a three-year rotational basis. In accordance with PREA guidelines for community confinement facilities, it is mandatory for every facility to undergo an external audit every three years. These audits are to be conducted by an independent, certified PREA Auditor to ensure impartial and rigorous evaluations.

This auditing process serves as a critical component of our commitment to upholding the highest standards of safety and compliance within our facilities. By engaging an independent, certified PREA Auditor, we ensure an objective assessment of our practices and procedures, free from any potential conflicts of interest. This robust and regular evaluation is instrumental in validating our ongoing efforts to provide a secure and respectful environment for all individuals under our care.

Definitions

Administrative Findings: These pertain to any discoveries regarding the responsibilities of administrative staff in ensuring compliance with PREA standards. Examples include documentation requirements in staff employment files, community partnership agreements, postings within the facility, and the maintenance of internal PREA documents.

Clinical Findings: These encompass any observations related to services provided to clients in accordance with PREA requirements. Examples include the assessment of PREA-related risks for clients, the provision of services to clients who have experienced sexual harassment or assault, and the responsiveness to client inquiries regarding agency PREA requirements.

Safety and Security Findings: These findings relate to aspects of the physical program location or staffing procedures that could potentially impact the safety of clients from sexual assault or harassment.

Staff Training Findings: These refer to any observations related to the training of program staff in PREA and PREA reporting requirements, ensuring that staff are adequately prepared and knowledgeable in maintaining a safe environment and responding appropriately to any PREA-related concerns.



AGENCY EXTERNAL PREA AUDIT FINDINGS

Annual Data

Figure 06

Agency External PREA AUDIT FINDIGNS BY CATEGORY 2015-2022

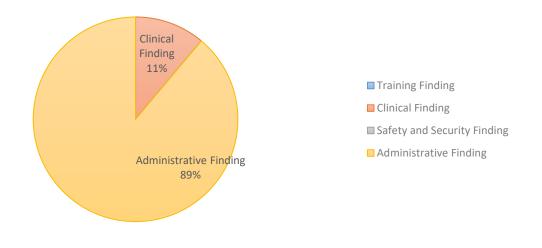


Figure 07

Agency PREA Corrective Actions

The corrective measures for the findings identified in the PFH and TRRC audit of 2021 were formally submitted to the external PREA Auditor this year. Subsequently, the auditor conducted a thorough 90-day assessment and determined that both programs had diligently implemented all proposed corrective actions pertaining to the identified findings. This successful outcome attests to our unwavering commitment to rectify and enhance our practices in alignment with PREA standards.

In the calendar year of 2022, Pioneer Human Services received no substantiated allegations of PREA violations. As of the current reporting period, there are no active corrective action plans in place pertaining to PREA. However, it's worth noting that in the 2022 SRRC external audit of the Spokane RRC, seven findings related to unmet standards were identified.

As of the date of this report, Pioneer Human Services is actively in the process of formulating a corrective action plan to rectify the noted findings. This comprehensive plan will be submitted to the external PREA auditor later this year for review and approval. Once finalized and endorsed by the external auditor, the corrective action plan will be prominently featured in our agency's 2023 annual report, reflecting our steadfast commitment to ensuring compliance and upholding the highest standards of safety and care within our facilities.