

PASSAGES TO RECOVERY, INC.

Prison Rape Elimination Act Annual Report for 2021

Introduction

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress in 2003 to establish national standards for the detection, prevention and reduction of sexual assault in confinement settings. It establishes a zero-tolerance culture for institutional sexual assault and makes prevention a priority in the US prison and jail system.

To comply with PREA standards, Passages to Recovery, Inc. formerly known as The Program for Offenders (as of January 1, 2022), provides a safe, secure and humane environment for offenders, which includes the right to be free from all forms of sexual abuse, sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. The facility has a zero-tolerance policy for offender-on-offender sexual assault, staff sexual misconduct and sexual harassment. All allegations of sexual abuse will be investigated. Investigations which reveal criminal conduct will be referred to law enforcement for further investigation and prosecution. The agency also recognizes the right of staff and offenders to be free from retaliation for reporting sexual misconduct.

Purpose

The Prison Rape Elimination Act requires that each agency collect data for every allegation of sexual abuse and aggregate the data at least annually. This report is a summary of Passages to Recovery, Inc. formally known as The Program for Offenders' activities regarding PREA compliance in 2021. This document serves as an annual review to assess the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention/detection procedures and to initiate process improvement where needed.

PREA Activities in 2021

- Staff training on PREA requirements continued. PREA training was provided to all newly hired employees so that they would be aware of PREA requirements before they were assigned to a duty post. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, large group trainings remained smaller, limited-size group instruction.
- Institutional response plans were reviewed. The response plans meet the requirements of the PREA federal rule. No changes were made to the response plans.
- Intake specialists continue to provide a PREA orientation to all new residents. All residents receive a PREA orientation within 30 days of reception.

- Intake specialists continue to assess all new residents using PREA assessment tools to determine potential predatory behavior and potential victimization. All residents are assessed for predatory behavior/victimization within five days of reception and again after 20 days. They are also reassessed any time a resident is out of the facility overnight (for example, out to court) and returns.
- The website is in transition to reflect the name change to Passages to Recovery, Inc. A copy of the 2020 agency PREA annual report will be uploaded to the new website.
- Data collection continued. Audit files were updated with 2021 data as necessary. Monthly data reports regarding PREA activities in Passages Pittsburgh, formally known as ACTA and the West Homestead facility were recorded.
- PREA audit was conducted at both sites by a certified DOJ & DHS PREA auditor September 22 – 23, 2021. The audit conducted at Passages Pittsburgh, formerly known as ACTA, was finalized on October 20, 2021, and concluded the facility met and, in some cases exceeded PREA standards. The audit conducted at West Homestead Center was finalized on October 22, 2021, and concluded the facility met and, in some cases, exceeds PREA standards.

2021 PREA Data

Resident on Resident Allegations			
	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual Contact	0	0	0
Nonconsensual Sex Acts	0	0	0
Sexual Harassment	1	0	1
Staff Sexual Misconduct			
	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
Sexual Contact	0	0	0
Nonconsensual Sex Acts	0	0	0
Sexual Harassment	0	0	0

Comparative Analysis 2020-2021

Passages to Recovery, Inc., formerly known as The Program for Offenders had no resident on resident PREA allegations and no allegations of staff sexual misconduct or harassment in 2020. In 2021, there were 2 resident on resident PREA allegations and no allegations of staff sexual misconduct or harassment. The 2 resident on resident allegations are detailed as follows:

On June 9, 2021, a resident on resident PREA allegation was investigated at Passages To Recovery West Homestead. The alleged sexual harassment allegations were determined to be unfounded. On July 29, 2021 a resident on resident PREA allegation was investigated at Passages To Recovery Pittsburgh. The alleged sexual harassment allegation was determined to be founded; the perpetrator was returned to the Allegheny County Jail.

Given the degree of understanding that residents have of their rights regarding PREA and their knowledge of how to report PREA violations, there is no statistical indication of increased resident on resident sexual activity or of increased staff sexual misconduct.

PREA Deficit Analysis/2022 Goals

Passages to Recovery, Inc. has established the following goals regarding PREA for 2022:

- Provide PREA training to all employees during 2022.
- Continue to provide internal training as well as seek external sources for training regarding transgender and LGBTI issues.
- Ensure that employees meet 100% of PREA training requirements for 2022.
- Ensure that all residents receive PREA orientation within the prescribed timeframes.
- Ensure that all residents are screened for potential predatory behavior and victimization within the prescribed timeframes.
- Have additional individuals trained as certified PREA investigators.
- Have an additional individual(s) trained as PREA coordinator.

- Periodically review PREA audit files to ensure continued compliance with PREA standards.

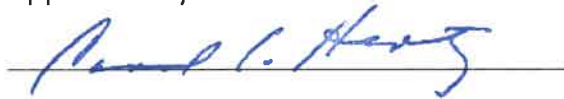
Conclusions

Passages to Recovery, Inc. formerly known as The Program for Offenders had one unfounded and one founded PREA complaint during 2021. Consequently, there is no indication of increased predatory sexual behavior or staff sexual misconduct at Passages to Recovery, Inc.

Both staff and residents continue to be trained regarding the requirements of the PREA policy, how to report PREA violations and how to respond to PREA violations.

Through continued staff/resident education and the advancement of a zero-tolerance culture, it is hoped that Passages to Recovery, Inc. will improve its ability to prevent, detect and respond to sexual abuse in its facilities.

Approved by:



Executive Director

Date: January 31, 2022