



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

ICE AURORA CONTRACT DETENTION CENTER ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Date: 6 January 2020
DAY MONTH YEAR

Time: 12:00 pm
TIME

Rep. Crow Staff: Rep. Jason Crow; Veronica Marceny, Deputy District Director; Kevin Vargas, Constituent Liaison
NAME POSITION

Other Governmental Staff:
NAME POSITION

GEO Employee: Johnny Choate, Warden; Jonathon Davis, DO; John Chistakis M.D., GEO Chief Medical Officer
NAME POSITION

ICE Employee: Tracey Cammerto, AFOD; Rebecca Fisher, SDDO
NAME POSITION

Were you allowed into the facility?

YES ☒

NO ☐

How many people are currently being cohorted/quarantined due to sickness?

Number of people currently cohorted/quarantined due to sickness:

0

How many people in this facility have had a case hearing in the past week?

Number of people who have had a case hearing in the past week:

unknown



The following questions are based on the Performance-Based National Standards, updated as of 2016.

HANDBOOK: 2.1 G. 2. DID NOT SEE LIVING QUARTERS ON THIS VISIT

The English and Spanish ICE National Detainee Handbook (handbook) and local supplement fully describes all policies, procedures and rules in effect at the facility. Were handbooks visibly seen in living areas?

HANDBOOK WAS SEEN ☐

HANDBOOK WAS NOT SEEN ☐

FORMAL COUNTS: 2.8 V. A.

How many people were most recently formally counted in this facility?

Number of people most recently formally counted in the facility:

*see supplemental notes

How many people formally counted in this facility describe themselves as the following gender?

Female:

Male:

Nonbinary:

Prefer not to say:

How many people formally counted in this facility describe themselves as transgender?

Number of people that describe themselves as transgender:

How many people have been brought into the facility this week?

Number of people brought into the facility this week:

How many people have left the facility this week?

Number of people who left the facility this week:

Of those who left the facility this week, how many were:

Released into community:

Formally removed from the United States:

Moved to other facility:

Other _____:

How many people are currently being housed in the Annex?

Number of people who are being housed in the Annex:



MENU PLANNING: 4.1.E.

Show me the kitchen.

KITCHEN WAS SHOWN ☒

KITCHEN WAS NOT SHOWN ☐

What was the menu for the week and when was the last time the registered dietitian certified it?

Menu and packaged food's date of certification:

Reports from GEO not available at time of visit.

FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION: 4.1.J

Show me the records of the weekly food service area inspection and the daily food and equipment temperature check.

RECORDS WERE SHOWN ☐

RECORDS WERE NOT SHOWN ☒

MEDICAL CARE: 4.3

Show me the examination and treatment area.

AREAS WERE SHOWN ☒

AREAS WERE NOT SHOWN ☐

As soon as possible, but no later than 12 hours after arrival, all detainees shall receive, by a health care provider or a specially trained detention officer, an initial medical, dental, and mental health screening and be asked for information regarding any known acute or emergent medical conditions.

What is the number of detainees that received an initial medical, dental, and mental health screening that have arrived in the past week?

Number of detainees that received an initial health screening: unavailable

Please list the licensure type and number of health care professionals providing medical, dental, or mental health services in this facility in the past week:

Report on staffing not available at time of visit, however, Dr. Davis and Mr. Choate reported on the status of vacant positions. Details included in Supplemental Notes.



WOMEN'S MEDICAL CARE: 4.4

Preventative services specific to women shall be offered for routine age appropriate screenings, to include breast examinations, pap smear, STD testing and mammograms. These services shall not interfere with detainee's deportation or release from custody date.

How many women requested qualified preventative services specific to women in the past week?

Number of women who requested services in the past week:

How many women accessed qualified preventative services specific to women in the past week?

Number of women who received services in the past week:

How many pregnant detainees are in this facility today?

Number of pregnant individuals in the facility:

PERSONAL HYGIENE: 4.5.D DID NOT SEE LIVING QUARTERS ON THIS VISIT

Were feminine hygiene items visibly stocked in the living areas?

FEMININE HYGIENE ITEMS WERE VISIBLE ☐ *FEMININE HYGIENE ITEMS WERE NOT VISIBLE* ☐

TELEPHONE ACCESS: 5.6

Show me where you keep the telephones that detainees use to talk to their families and others in the community, legal representatives, consulates, courts, and government agencies.

PHONES WERE SHOWN ☒

PHONES WERE NOT SHOWN ☐

Telephones shall be maintained in proper working order. Show me how many phones there are and that they are in working order.

Number of phones:

PHONES WERE IN WORKING ORDER ☒ 12 *PHONES WERE NOT IN WORKING ORDER* ☐ 0

Show me the video phone/video relay service area that detainees can use for legal proceeding. DID NOT REQUEST TO SEE THIS AREA ON THIS VISIT

AREA WAS SHOWN ☐

AREA WAS NOT SHOWN ☐

How many detainees have used the video phone/video relay services for legal proceeding in the past week?

Number of detainees that used the video services for legal proceedings:



LAW LIBRARIES AND LEGAL MATERIAL: 6.3

Show me the law library. DID NOT REQUEST TO SEE THIS AREA ON THIS VISIT

LAW LIBRARY WAS SHOWN ☐

LAW LIBRARY WAS NOT SHOWN ☐

The facility shall make efforts to assist detainees who are illiterate, Limited English Proficient (LEP) and have disabilities in using the law library. Facilities shall establish procedures to meet this requirement, such as:

- having the facility's law librarian assist the detainee's legal research;
- permitting the detainee to receive assistance from other detainees in using the law library;
- assisting in contacting pro bono legal assistance organizations from the ICE/ERO provided list; and
- in the case of detainees with disabilities, providing reasonable accommodations and or auxiliary aids and services identified through the facility's reasonable accommodation process.

How many people have requested assistance in using resources in the law library in the past week?

Number of people who requested assistance:

How many requests were for detainees who were illiterate, LEP, and have disabilities in the past week?

Requests for detainees who were illiterate:

Requests for detainees who with a limited English proficiency:

Requests for detainees who have disabilities:

What was the most common method of assistance the past week?

Most common method of assistance:

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

This was the first unannounced visit of an ICE detention center following passage of the POD Act. The Congressman and staff were permitted to enter the facility and conduct the oversight visit.

Because advance notice wasn't provided, population counts and food safety reports were not available at the time of the visit. Supplemental documents are being requested to ICE/GEO. The GEO Staff listed on this report were not involved in the whole visit. They happened to be in the Medical area when the Congressman and staff entered the area.

POPULATION:

Formal count numbers were not available at the time of the visit, however, ICE staff indicated that the total population of the facility is under 600 people. Upon questioning, they report that each pod has at least one closed dorm. The ICE contract with GEO includes a guaranteed minimum of 525 beds being used in the main facility. People are moved from the Annex to the main facility to meet this minimum, but the Annex is still open at this time.

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES, CONTINUED:

KITCHEN/FOOD SAFETY:

The kitchen inspection involved a discussion with GEO kitchen management staff and an inspection of the perishable food storage areas. When asked about reports of expired food being served, kitchen staff reported that over the weekend some of the buns that went out had mold on them and that they were promptly recalled and replaced. Congressman Crow's staff did an extensive inspection inside the cafeteria, included the refrigerators and checked for expired dates on the foods. GEO staff stated that no expired food was served and that all remaining bread was moved to the cooler.

When asked about management of perishable foods, they reported that all food deliveries are inspected for compliant expiration dates and returned if they don't meet them. Bread and milk are delivered weekly. Milk must have an expiration date two weeks out from when it is received.

Staff inspected expiration dates on all food in the walk-in coolers. All items were three to ten days from the expiration date. It is noted that all perishable food items have the received date prominently written on them. These dates were as early as late December, but upon examination, the expiration dates had not been reached yet.

MEDICAL STAFFING:

Health Service Administrative (HSA) staff were again not present at the time of the visit. However, because the Warden, GEO Chief Medical Officer and Dr. Davis were present, we were able to obtain answers about staffing and care.

The HSA staff that were formerly available were assigned to this facility on a temporary basis. They are no longer on-site, but continue to visit and monitor and be a resource. While the newly hired HSA and Assistant HSA await completion of their background checks, Dr. Davis and one of the RNs are handling administrative functions for the facility.

Background checks continue to delay hiring. The goal of GEO is to have 2 MD's and 3 PA's. They would like to have a physician on site 24/7.

Interview for the 2nd physician is in process.

MEDICAL CARE:

Flu is still present in the facility and medical staff are monitoring, specifically Flu B. Most of the detainees who had declined the flu vaccine initially have now received it.

Immunizations of new arrivals remain on track and the GEO Medical staff continue to work with TCHD on ongoing public health/infectious disease issues.

Medical staff continues to use the electronic medical record. Because the record includes drug contraindications, detainees should be able to get basic over-the-counter medicines from nurses visiting the dorms. However, if they repeatedly ask for the same medicine, they will be scheduled to be seen by medical staff to ensure there isn't an underlying issue. They will continue to have paperwork as back-up.

DENTAL CARE:

Following up on reports of detainees not receiving proper dental care, GEO Medical staff confirmed that detainees are screened for dental issues at intake and schedule for care based on need. If needed, they will start people on antibiotics while they wait for their appointment to prevent infection.

Regular dental care is handled in-house and they report being nearly caught up with all dental needs. Detainees are eligible for a dental cleaning after six months in ICE custody. For people in need of oral surgery, eligibility depends on length of stay and the dental care needed. For example, for a person in need of a root canal, the tooth in question must be viable and they have to be in custody for at least one year. In addition, any outside care must be able to be handled during the time frame the detainee will still be present at the Aurora facility (e.g., if the outside provider is booking appointments six weeks out and the detainee is scheduled to be relocated or removed from the country prior to that, they will not schedule the appointment).