



Sexual Assault and Harassment Prevention and Response (SAHPR) Task Force Update

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National Science Board - Open Plenary

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Operational Updates

- NSF Antarctic Helpline (Launched April 10, 2023)
 - Provides live, confidential, one-on-one crisis intervention and emotional support, as well as guidance for reporting and finding additional support resources.
 - Anonymous, secure and available to USAP community members both on and off the ice
- Launch First USAP Climate Survey – Summer 2023
 - Establish robust baseline data on SA/SH incidence rate, culture/environment measures



Improve Prevention and Response for the Upcoming Season

- Enhanced Communication Plan on SAHPR Resources **New** **USAP Request**
- Prevention and Training Activities:
 - Continuing Victim Advocate **USAP Request**
 - Evaluating command options and expanding NSF presence **New** **USAP Request**
 - New training resources for supervisors, staff **New** **USAP Request**
 - Prevention Toolkit for USAP **New**
- Safety Activities:
 - Safety Planning Template Resource for Supervisors **New**
 - SAHPR-related training on How to Receive/Respond to a Disclosure **New**



SAHPR Program Office

- Information Management and Case Monitoring
 - SAHPR Incident Review Team reviews and monitors each report
 - Established unique case identifiers
 - Developing IT-based case management system
- USAP-wide accountability framework
 - Federal partners – focus on response coordination
 - Establish reporting and monitoring procedures
 - Academic partners - strategy for options and collaboration
 - Consideration of award terms and conditions
 - Contractors – enhanced contract requirements that support SAHPR goals
 - Coordination with Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP)



SAHPR Program Office

- Extension of SAHPR support services for agency-wide purposes
 - Evaluating USAP resources for broader use (e.g., Antarctic Helpline, Climate survey)
 - Reviewing contract options for various services to include restorative justice, culture change management, and individual support services
 - Working with CORF Office on field safety
- Continue benchmarking and partnering on best practices
 - Interagency Working Group on Sexual Misconduct
 - Collaboration with other agencies who support field research
 - International Outreach (example: Forum for Arctic Research Operators)



Background Slide



NSF Action Plan for Antarctica – Key Completed Actions

1. Single Communication Point for Sexual Assault/Harassment Matters
 - SAHPR program office established in the Office of Equity and Civil Rights (OECR)
 - Established saferscience@nsf.gov to file a report, submit a complaint, ask questions, make suggestions,
2. Resources for Victims
 - Established 24/7 on-ice victim's advocate to support the community
 - Launched 24/7 crisis hotline for phone, text, online chat support
3. Antarctic Site Presence and Visits
 - Conducted 7 in-person listening sessions for community input on SAHPR; 20-30 attendees at each session
 - Conducted 8 virtual listening sessions for current and past USAP participants
 - Town Halls with NSF and NSB Leadership at McMurdo and South Pole
4. Increased Vetting
 - Established enhanced screening procedures for contractors similar to those for federal employees
 - Increased number of USAP contractors subject to enhanced background investigations
5. Accountability
 - Established POCs with USAP federal and military partners for reporting/monitoring follow-up
6. Improved Training
 - New training module for USAP participants, with a focus on bystander intervention.
 - Customized supplemental training for supervisors, other key stakeholders
7. Enhanced Security Measures on the Ice
 - Door viewers are installed in most lodging rooms in McMurdo, South Pole and Palmer; enhanced controls for key access; additional satellite phones and SAHPR resource instructions have been provided to field teams
8. Director's USAP Task Force on Sexual Assault Harassment
 - Meets weekly and reports to the Director; coordinating cross-agency response

