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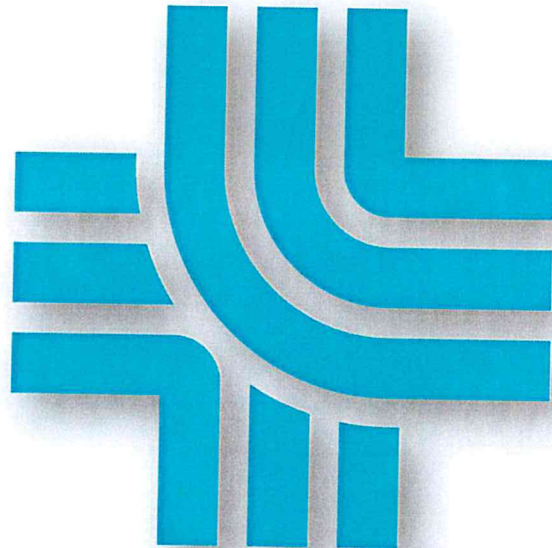
Annual Report of Jail Health Services

presented to the

Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office
Santa Barbara, CA



August 2023



“Always Do the Right Thing”

Some think this guiding principle is simply an aspirational company tagline, but it was said to us by one of our long-term county partners: “What I appreciate most about working with you is I can count on you to always do the right thing.” From the exam room to the corporate boardroom, this code is our beacon of excellence and what we believe makes a difference to our patients, people, and partners.

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Brown,

Wellpath appreciates its partnership with Santa Barbara County. It is a relationship that began in 2017 with the mutual goal of providing competent and cost-efficient healthcare to our patients. Our collaboration is top tier focusing directly on the needs of this unique population and across many agencies within the county. Together with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office, we have raised the effectiveness of our medical and mental health services programs. I especially want to thank the efforts of the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Brown for maintaining a solid medical program in Santa Barbara County.

Over the past year of service to you, we have:

- Helped open the Northern Branch Jail
- Mitigated the effects of COVID
- Expanded the Jail MAT Program
- Expanded services to incarcerated IST patients through EASS
- Collaborated with custody to implement the structured settlement of *Murray v. Santa Barbara County*.

**OUR TEAMS HAVE
COLLABORATED TO
RAISE THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF
MEDICAL AND
MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES.**

In the current year of service, we plan to:

- Continue collaborating with our community partners while patients are incarcerated and on release
- Work with our custody partners to develop specialized mental health housing units
- Expand our MAT program with new services
- Maintain quality healthcare and mental health services




There are many thanks to go around for our combined success. **Chief Vincent Wasilewski, Commander Kenny Callahan, Commander Shawn Lammer, Commander Ryan Sullivan,** and Health Services **Lieutenant Anthony Espinoza** have all helped ensure the success of our program. We remain impressed by the compassion, hard work, and partnership shared with every one of our team members. Lastly, I want to thank you, **Sheriff Brown**, for the culture of collaboration and always doing the right thing, which we know starts from the top. The team has followed your lead. It was a challenging year that gave us multiple opportunities to unite, form and grow relationships, and build a better program for our patients and people. We are proud of our partnership with you and your staff. We look forward to making the coming year our most successful by living up to our obligation to "always do the right thing" for you, your patients, and the Santa Barbara County community.

Sincerely,

Bailey Fogata

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Services Provided

 <p>Comprehensive Medical Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessments & Appraisals <i>Receiving screenings; health assessments</i> Access to Care <i>Triage & sick call; on-site clinics; telehealth; eConsults</i> Off-Site Coordination <i>Emergency & hospitalization arrangements; case management</i> Education <i>Patient health education programs; correctional staff training programs</i> National Contracts <i>Pharmacy; laboratory; radiology</i> Substance Use Disorder Treatment <i>Medically supervised withdrawal management; MAT</i> Medically Necessary Diet Programs Dental Care Optical Care 	 <p>Mental & Behavioral Health Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening, Assessment, & Evaluation Treatment Planning Consultation & Education Multidisciplinary Treatment Teams Group & Individual Therapy Clinical Supervision Telepsychiatry Suicide Prevention & Intervention Jail-Based Competency Treatment Re-Entry and Discharge Planning Community Outreach <i>Continuity of care & discharge planning; collaboration with community agencies</i> 	 <p>Administrative & Operational Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Claims Management <i>Third-party billing; cost recovery programs; catastrophic re-insurance coverage</i> Utilization Management <i>Web-based Care Management system</i> Accreditation <i>NCCCHC</i> Clinical Quality Assurance <i>Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) & Medical Administration Committee (MAC) programs</i> Reporting & Accountability <i>Automated reports; compliance tracking</i>
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Statistics

- Patients – 760 (ADP)
- Receiving screenings – 9,650
- Emergency responses – 45
- Medical provider sick calls – 1,244
- Chronic Care visits – 923
- Nurse sick calls – 5,718
- Nurse treatments – 53,893
- Labs – 7,334
- X-Rays – 267
- Medications administered – 396,045
- COVID cases – 762
- COVID vaccines – 210
- Dental sick calls – 578
- 14-Day health assessments – 1,194
- TB assessments – 1,932
- Off-site clinical services – 246
- Psychiatric provider sick calls – 2,851
- Mental health sick calls – 10,625
- Patient deaths – 4

COVID-19 Pandemic

We continued dealing with the COVID pandemic's effects in the community and our facilities during the previous year. COVID-19 continued to present challenges to providing services to patients, and we adjusted our COVID procedures to meet the CDC requirements and continue working with Santa Barbara County Public Health Department for their guidance and expertise. We want to thank our public health partners for their continued support and partnership during this last year.

Wellpath medical staff provided care to 762 patients who tested positive for COVID-19 either through outbreaks in the facility or during the intake process in 2022. There were five outbreaks in total. Each outbreak lasted approximately 2 months.

- All patients were tested for COVID-19 during the intake process and prior to being housed within the jail to prevent the spread of COVID within the facility.
- Wellpath worked with the SBSO and Public Health to mitigate outbreaks in the facility. This included co-hording patients, testing exposed patients on a 3,5,7,10 and 14-day schedule to continue to prevent the spread among our population.
- All patients who tested positive for COVID-19 were monitored daily by medical staff which included vitals, signs and symptom checks. All patients were provided with extra hydration and appropriate medication for COVID-19 symptoms.

Wellpath provided 210 COVID-19 vaccines to patients which included Janssen, Pfizer and Moderna. We continue to offer COVID vaccines to our patients and staff.

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MAT)

This past year was a time of growth for our MAT program. We welcomed a new MAT coordinator, as well as a SUD counselor, to our team. Our MAT coordinator, **Matt Hamlin**, has over 20 years of experience working with patients in Santa Barbara County. His leadership in this area has directly led to expanded services to our population and allowed more patients to receive vital treatment for their disease. He has worked with these patients in the community and cultivated partnerships with community-based organizations and other county partners.



Our SUD counselor, **Daniel Torres**, has five years of experience collaborating with community-based organizations. With this new team, we have taken a new collaborative approach to providing treatment. This collaborative approach includes working with our providers, director of nursing, health services administrator, custody, behavior wellness, Health Management Associates, and Aegis.

Over the last year, we have:

- Expanded the number of patients in the program from 11 to 33
- Attended an HMA-sponsored MAT conference
- Purchased workbooks for patients to complete and keep during the program
- Continued to bridge medication upon intake

- Implemented the continuation of methadone at intake
- Offered discharge planning to include appointments upon reentry, as well as releasing all patients with NARCAN and community resource information
- Secured an additional MAT grant funded by DHCS

With this collaboration and increased communication with our patients, our program has grown, benefiting those we serve and giving them the tools to succeed. We:

- Provided services to 57 patients
- Initiated 25 patients on medications
- 567 visits by the MAT coordinator
- 266 visits by the SUD counselor

Jail Based Competency Treatment (JBCT)

The Santa Barbara Jail Based Competency Treatment (SBJBCT) program is a 10-bed program located inside of the Santa Barbara County Jail. The SBJBCT team includes a psychologist, psychiatrist, licensed clinical social worker, competency trainer, administrative assistant, and a dedicated custody deputy.

The program consists of daily therapy, competency groups, and weekly individual sessions that focus on the patient's specific challenges to provide a fully holistic approach to treatment. The Department of State Hospitals (DSH) funds the SBJBCT program to restore competency to patients found not competent to stand trial by the court system.

SBJBCT opened in November 2020 and has restored 107 patients since its inception. The SBJBCT has been noted as one of the top programs in all of California to return defendants to trial without further transferring them to a state hospital. This approach helps improve treatment outcomes and morale from reduced stress. It also increases visits from family and friends and a decreased staff-to-patient ratio where individualized treatment is more available. Our JBCT team has hosted numerous facility tours from other sites wanting to adopt similar practices in their programs.

- Average number of days until restoration (admission to discharge): 57
- Average number of days until restoration from commitment date: 144
- Average number of days spent in JBCT (for both restored and non-restored): 62
- Average number of days until patient is transferred to DSH (admission to discharge; unable to restore in JBCT): 116
- Average number of days until patient is transferred to DSH (Commitment date to discharge): 218

Early Access and Stabilization Services

Wellpath has established Early Access and Stabilization Services (EASS) programs in 32 California jails. We start restoration services within three business days after learning about a patient's competency status. Our programs are led by a dedicated staff and funded by DSH and a cadre of Wellpath leaders. Our goal is to stabilize IST patients and help them assist in their defense. The program takes an average of 30 to 90 days.

WELLPATH STARTS RESTORATION SERVICES WITHIN THREE BUSINESS DAYS IN 32 COUNTY JAILS.

As of June 30, 2023, we had enrolled 1,087 participants; 105 were currently enrolled, and 982 had unenrolled. Of those patients who unenrolled, 26.9% were restored and deemed ready for trial; 34.1% transitioned to a JBCT program. Another 30.8% entered a state hospital. 8.2% unenrolled for other reasons. Specifically, we offer medication management and individual and group-based restoration services before patients are admitted into a JBCT or DSH bed. Some services are virtual, and others are in person.

All competency treatment services comply with state and federal regulatory requirements applicable to the JBCT Program, including any California DSH policies and procedures related to treatment provided before admission to a formal program, Title 15, and NCCHC standards for mental healthcare. EASS began admitting patients in August of 2022 and is offered at Santa Barbara Main Jail and the Northern Branch Jail.

Northern Branch Jail

On January 22, 2022, we transferred 244 inmates from the Main Jail to Northern Branch Jail during a COVID-19 outbreak within the Main Jail. The facility opened before completion and required an expedited opening plan with exceptional teamwork from the civilian personnel, custody deputies, medical and mental health staff, and other contract personnel.

We slowly increased the population through transfers from the Main Jail until intake opened on April 11, 2022. From the opening of intake through the end of 2022, over 3,000 offenders booked into the Northern Branch Jail, while the facility averaged a daily population of 275 during 2022.

Prior to the Northern Branch Jail opening Wellpath, SBSO, SB County Fire, SB City Fire and AMR participated in a mass disaster drill in January 2022. This drill was to help medical, custody, county officials, and city first responders understand how to respond to emergencies within the new facility. The drill was collaborative and gave the different agencies the opportunity to work together.



Murry v. Santa Barbara County Class Action Litigation (DRC)

Wellpath continues to work with the county to comply with the Remedial Plan. In August of 2022, the board approved additional FTEs to help support the ongoing implementation of the remedial plan:

- **Compliance Coordinator** – Works directly with all involved parties toward the compliance of all provisions in the Remedial Plan and assists with mainlining NCCHC accreditation.
- **Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Coordinator** – Works directly with the Compliance Coordinator and involved parties to create and complete quality improvement studies that meet DRC requirements, as well as internal CQI reports for quality assurance.
- **Mental Health Professional** – Provides programming in specialized mental health units.
- **Mental Health Supervisor** – Provides oversight for the mental health team and collaborates with community partners to meet the requirements of the Remedial Plan.

Additional Wellpath support includes the Vice President of Partner Risk Strategies, Director of Partner Risk Strategies, Regional Director of Operations, Regional Director of Mental Health, Vice President of Mental Health, and Regional Vice President of Operations. Wellpath Corporate Departments such as Nursing, Clinical Quality Indicators (CQI), Risk Management, Compliance and Accreditation, and IT have supported local efforts to ensure our teams are able to demonstrate compliance with the provisions.

An additional 2.9 FTEs were approved to help maintain current service levels; these hours include an RN, and additional PNP and MD hours.

Wellpath continued to support the county of Santa Barbara in their efforts to meet the requirement of the Remedial Plan.

- Wellpath completed two status reports with the county which were required to be turned in to the plaintiffs' counsel. This status report goes over each provision which requires a response and update. Wellpath participated in the following sections which included Medical, Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and ADA.
- Conducted multiple facility tours and meetings with experts and plaintiffs' counsel.
- Responded to all requests from experts and plaintiffs' counsel.
- Implemented new practices to help the county meet the stipulation set forth.

NCCHC

We maintain accreditation with the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) and are working toward reaccreditation in 2023. **Wellpath has never lost accreditation or failed to achieve accreditation.**

Wellpath has a regional compliance and accreditation team who assists with maintaining compliance and accreditation. Wellpath plans to apply for accreditation of the Northern Branch facility in 2024.

Training and Development

- **HSA Bailey Fogata** attended the Local Government HSA conference in Denver, Colorado, in May 2023. She also participated in the American Jails Association and the National Conference on Correctional Healthcare.
- Director of Nursing **Stephanie Baylor**, RN, attended similar training for Directors of Nursing (DONs) in April.
- We conducted successful man-down training that included medical and correctional staff.
- We had an annual Skills fair for all medical staff in October.
- All nurses completed annual training in medication administration, suicide prevention, and seven minutes to save a life training, which includes topics such as withdrawal management, signs and symptoms of distress, and emergency care management.

In-Custody Deaths

In just three years, between 2019 and 2021, California's opioid-related deaths spiked 121%, according to the state's health department. The vast majority of these deaths were linked to fentanyl, an extremely potent synthetic opioid. As the nation continues to fight this epidemic so do prisons and jails nationwide. The Santa Barbara County jail facilities are not exempt from this nationwide crisis. The introduction of opioids, including fentanyl is extremely problematic in custody facilities.

We experienced four in-custody deaths in the last year. One in-custody death occurred in the Santa Barbara Main Jail, and three at the Northern Branch Jail.

- Santa Barbara Main Jail 1/12/2022 – Pre-existing medical conditions (cardiomyopathy and morbid obesity), methamphetamine overdose, resistance, and restraint.
- Northern Branch Jail 9/9/2022 – Fentanyl overdose.
- Northern Branch Jail 10/20/2022 – Fentanyl overdose.
- Northern Branch Jail 12/28/2022 – Methamphetamine intoxication. Other significant conditions include pre-existing medical conditions (cardiomyopathy and obesity) and restraint.

There were an additional eleven overdoses between the two facilities. Due to the rise in overdoses seen between the facilities, Wellpath and the SBSO took a collaborative approach in their response to address the opioid crisis happening within the jails.

- A discussion was held with Wellpath, Custody administration and multiple patients to discuss the opioid crisis within the facility. The patients were also offered educational resources.
- SBSO provided patients at the Northern Branch jail with training on how to properly dispense Narcan.
- Wellpath helped to secure additional doses of Narcan when the county was unable to receive from the normal supplier. This is another example of how Wellpath has collaborated with SBSO to ensure our patients receive lifesaving supplies.

- Wellpath and Custody conducted multiple emergency response training for suspected overdose. These trainings included the emergency response as well as debrief which included all staff involved to discuss the response and address any area of concern.

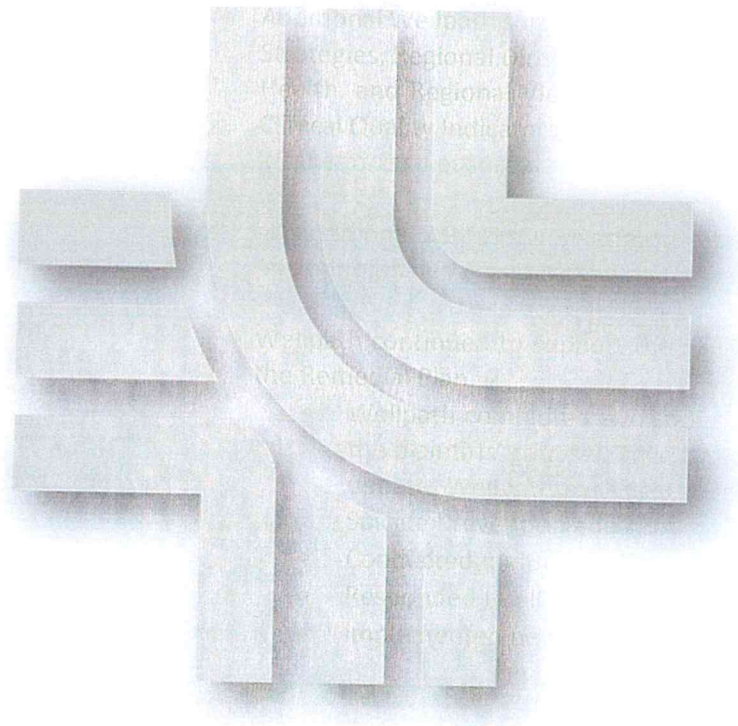
The Year Ahead

As mentioned in our cover letter, we will continue collaborating with our county partners while patients are incarcerated and on release to ensure continuity of care and creating stability in the community. The healthier a released patient is, the better his or her chance for success.

We will work with custody and our county partners to continue to expand our specialized Behavioral Health Units. In the year ahead, we anticipate servicing a larger portion of the eligible population in these units. While we grow the programs at both the Main Jail and the Northern Branch Jail, we also want to expand our growing MAT program to add new services, increase individual and group counseling sessions, as well as continued collaboration with the Sheriff's Treatment Program (STP). MAT programs in county jails are rapidly becoming an expectation, and Santa Barbara is poised to lead the way with its dedicated staff and county partners.

We have enjoyed working with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office and will continue to collaborate on ways to end in-custody deaths. We will step-up our vigilance to recognize the propensity for patients to consider overdoses as a solution to their problems. We have fortified our staff with highly qualified individuals and are ready for enhanced wellness among our patients and partners.

 **wellpath**
To hope and healing.



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