



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

**Clerk of the Board of
Supervisors**

105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Probation
Department No.: 022
For Agenda Of: August 31, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director
Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer, (805) 803-8537
Contact Info: Kimberly Shean, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
(805) 934-6206

SUBJECT: Wellpath and Department of Behavioral Wellness annual report for healthcare and mental health services at juvenile detention facilities

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file the annual report regarding the Agreement for Medical Services with Wellpath and delivery of clinical treatment by Department of Behavioral Wellness (DBW) for youth detained in juvenile detention facilities; and
- b) Determine that the approval of the recommended action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 (b) (5), since the recommended action is a government administrative activity which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Probation Department operates two juvenile facilities, the Susan J. Gionfriddo Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) and Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC). Wellpath has contracted to provide medical services, and coordinate off-site medical treatment and dental services as required. Behavioral health clinical services are provided by the Department of Behavioral Wellness (DBW). Pursuant to agreement, Wellpath is to present a detailed annual report to the Board of Supervisors containing

a comprehensive review of the monthly statistical and program reports and examination of significant trends and issues. This year's annual report unifies both medical and behavioral health treatment for all youth.

Background:

Youth in custody continue to have timely access to quality medical care, and are able to request medical care via call slips collected and triaged by Wellpath nursing staff at least twice a day at both JJC and LPBC. During this past contracted year on-site nursing staff completed 7,267 clinic visits combined at both facilities. In addition to nursing visits, the pediatrician completed a total of 809 clinic visits. This includes 87 Comprehensive Well Child visits, 566 sick visits and 108 chronic care visits. The most common chronic visits seen by the pediatrician are asthma, obesity and hypertension. Psychosocial issues continue to be the biggest health issue facing youth with sexually transmitted infections, substance abuse disorders, and mental health issues including impacts of childhood trauma. Dental issues are also prevalent, and as mentioned previously are provided by specialists offsite with 102 total dental care visits provided in this past fiscal year.

The DBW has continued to provide clinical treatment to youth in both facilities, including post-custody outreach, engagement support and linkage services through the Transitions Team. Treatment services utilizing evidence-based and best practices principles include clinical assessment, treatment planning, individual, group and family treatment, crisis intervention, psychiatric evaluation and medication monitoring, case management, and cognitive behavioral treatment intervention delivery (Moral Reconciliation Therapy and Interactive Journaling). Additionally, DBW staff have provided professional training to facility staff in various mental health topics such as trauma-informed approaches to managing youth in a custodial setting. During this past fiscal year, DBW provided 329 psychiatric visits, 471 safety checks, 2,015 hours of individual therapy to a total of 260 youth, and 24 hours of family sessions to a total of 22 families. The total number of families and youth may be duplicated based on multiple reentries to facilities for the same youth. Recognizing a need for additional family engagement this current fiscal year and challenges presented last year related to the pandemic, and under the leadership of the current assigned supervisor, an increased focus has been placed on earlier contact with family upon admission, enhancement of treatment team processes to emphasize and incorporate family voice, and addressing barriers to family engagement. An additional enhancement that will be occurring in the coming months is extended mental health coverage into the evening and on Saturdays. DBW staff remain available for off hour calls and consultations as needed.

Probation currently meets all Title 15 regulatory standards and is now accredited for the purposes of ensuring exemplary services by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC). In November, 2020, the Probation Department, Wellpath, and DBW were awarded accreditation from the NCCHC's Standards for Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement facilities. This accreditation represents the highest level of care in correctional facilities for youth. Through collaboration with Wellpath and DBW, the Probation Department is able to provide and meet the highest standards involving medical and related care for youth while in a custodial setting.

In collaboration with the Facility Medical Director and the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department's (PHD) Health Officer, Probation continues to maintain comprehensive COVID-19 management and action plans using the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines specific to COVID-19.

Performance Measure:

PHD conducts quarterly audits of the contract’s Service Level Agreements (SLAs). A review of the audits for quarters one through four all showed the overall SLA performance objectives were 97%, exceeding the 90% minimum standards. There was one area in which the objective did not meet the 90% threshold; in particular vaccines, which was correlated to barriers related to making contact with parents to obtain consent due to COVID-19 restrictions. All other objectives exceeded the 90% minimum standard threshold.

<u>Santa Barbara County Fifth Year Summary of Wellpath Costs for Probation</u>	
Total Labor	\$1,000,906.00
Service and Supplies	\$8,928.00
Other Direct	\$18,888.00
Subtotal Expenses	\$1,028,722.00
G&A	\$104,241.00
Total Healthcare Services	\$1,132,963.00
Pharmacy Costs	\$105,000.00
EMR Fees	\$2,163.00
Total	\$1,240,126.00

<u>Department of Behavioral Wellness (DBW) Costs for Probation</u>	
Direct Labor	\$932,700.00
Indirect Administration Overhead 11.15%	\$132,900.00
Other Charges	\$144,500.00
Total	\$1,210,100

There is no fiscal impact of receiving and filing the report. The Probation Department’s FY 2021-22 adopted budget includes funding for the Wellpath contract in the amount of \$1,240,126, and funding for DBW in the amount of \$1,210,100. The current Wellpath contract expires on March 31, 2022. Approval of the requested action does not change the General Fund Contribution to the Probation Department.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Wellpath Annual Santa Barbara County Detention Facilities Report 2020-2021
- Attachment B: Wellpath Annual Report Y4 SLA
- Attachment C: Department of Behavioral Wellness Annual Report 2020-2021

Authored by:

JJ Zahry, Probation Manager