



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: 07/14/20
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Tanja Heitman, Chief Probation Officer, (805) 803-8537
Contact Info: Shawn E. Small, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, (805) 803-8586
SUBJECT: California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG)/Wellpath annual report for healthcare services at Probation 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 the California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG)/Wellpath; 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:

Under the current contract, Wellpath provides on-site medical services to youth detained in the Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH) and Los Prietos Boys Camp (LPBC) and coordinates off-site treatment and dental services as required. Mental health services are provided by County Behavioral Wellness and dental service are provided through a number of individual contracts based on region.

In October of 2018, CFMG's parent company, Correctional Medical Group Companies (CMGC), joined with Correct Care Solutions (CCS) to form Wellpath. Although the newly formed company is known as Wellpath, CFMG and CCS operate as separate entities with shared policies and procedures. Thus, the contract with CFMG remains intact but CFMG is now referred to as Wellpath.

Pursuant to the 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.

Background:

On July 3, 2018 and September 17, 2019, Probation and the Sheriff's Office presented the annual report to the Board of Supervisors. At the July 2018 meeting, it was agreed the subsequent annual reports would be provided within 60 days after July 1, 2019. At the September 2019 meeting, Probation indicated it would provide a separate annual report given the significant differences in operations and clients served by Wellpath in the juvenile detention facilities and the differences in the elements and application of juvenile NCCHC standards.

Probation, Wellpath and Department of Behavioral Wellness (DBW) continue to work to continuously improve the delivery of services provided to the youth and prepare for NCCHC accreditation. To that end, Probation continues to seek outside feedback involving continuous quality improvements (CQI) and accreditation preparation.

In October 2018, both facilities received a two-year Institution for Medical Quality (IMQ) accreditation certification good through October 2020; however, IMQ is in the process of winding down operations and will no longer provide accreditation services. Although it is expected the NCCHC accreditation will be in place before the IMQ accreditation lapses, the issue was reviewed with the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). While medical accreditation is desirable, it is not required. As long as the juvenile detention facilities provide medical services in a manner that complies with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 15 specific to health care guidelines, they meet the BSCC standards. Probation currently meets all Title 15 regulatory standards and is looking to be accredited for the purposes of ensuring exemplary services are provided.

Working collaboratively with Wellpath and DBW, the Probation's juvenile facilities have continued to implement changes to meet the NCCHC Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities standards for the purpose of obtaining accreditation. It is noted that accreditation will require assistance from each of the agencies, including DBW who oversees the delivery of mental health services to the youth. All partners have verbalized their concurrence with the actions plans to become accredited and have actively participated in and taken the necessary steps to modify or create procedures to bring medical, dental and mental health services in line with NCCHC accreditation standards. On January 1, 2019, the juvenile facilities began a one-year pre-accreditation review period to show standard compliance in order to apply for accreditation. On February 27, 2019, Wellpath, DBW and Probation conducted an internal, pre-NCCHC audit with the assistance of a Wellpath auditor. The auditor was able to clarify aspects of the accreditation criteria and provide further guidance to assist in ensuring compliance. In July 9, 2019, Wellpath formally submitted an application for NCCHC accreditation. On February 6, 2020, Wellpath, DBW and Probation conducted a second internal audit to confirm readiness for the tentatively scheduled NCCHC audit in April 2020. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and all NCCHC accreditations were cancelled. Wellpath was recently notified that NCCHC plans to resume facility audits. Probation and Wellpath will be working closely with NCCHC to schedule an accreditation audit as soon as possible and will be sure to update the Board of Supervisors as soon as a date is scheduled.

In an effort to provide the Board of Supervisors with an update on the overall status of health care within Probation’s Juvenile Detention Facilities and the accreditation status, Probation, Wellpath and DBW will return to the Board of Supervisors within 60 days after July 1, 2021. This will allow for submission to occur after budget hearings and provide Fiscal Year statistics. Wellpath will continue to provide an annual report addressing medical and dental services and DBW will join to separately report on mental health services.

Over the last four months, the Juvenile Detention Facilities have made extraordinary efforts to develop protocols, obtain personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies, and collaboratively work with the juvenile justice partners and stakeholders to protect the health of the staff and youth. Using the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines specific to COVID-19 and in collaboration with the Wellpath’s Facility Medical Director and the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department’s Health Officer, Probation developed a comprehensive COVID management and action plans to address the processes needed to address those scenarios likely to be encountered during the pandemic (see Attachments E and F).

Performance Measure:

SBCPHD conducts quarterly audits of the contract’s Service Level Agreements (SLAs). While the fourth quarter audit has been delayed due to COVID19 pandemic, a review of the audits for quarters one through three all showed the overall SLA performance objectives were 96%, exceeding the 90% minimum standards. There was one area in which the objective did not meet the 90% threshold, specifically vaccines, but the reported data was skewed as a result of youth or parents refusing the vaccine. The SLA for the next contract year will be adjusted to account for and remove refusals from the count. All other objectives exceeded the 90% minimum standard threshold.

As demonstrated in the annual report, the partnership, collaborative and communication efforts between Wellpath, Probation and involved stakeholders only continues to strengthen and was instrumental in our success this past year. Through the use of CQI processes and efforts to become NCHCC accredited, Probation continues to strive to provide juvenile specific healthcare services in a manner that exceeds community expectations and achieves the highest regulatory standards.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Santa Barbara County Fourth Year Summary of Costs for Probation	
Total Labor	\$971,744.00
Service and Supplies	\$8,658.00
Other Direct	\$18,328.00
Subtotal Expenses	\$998,760.00
G&A	\$101,204.00
Total Healthcare Services	\$1,099,964.00
Pharmacy Costs	\$105,000.00
EMR Fees	\$2,163.00
Total	\$1,207,127.00

There is no fiscal impact of receiving and filing the report. The Probation Department’s FY 2020-21 adopted budget includes funding for the Wellpath contract in the amount of \$1,207,127.00. 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 2019-2020
- Attachment B: Santa Maria Juvenile Hall Pharmaceutical Statistics
- Attachment C: Los Prietos Boys Camp Pharmaceutical Statistics
- Attachment D: SBCPHD Service Level Agreements Quarterly Audits Summary
- Attachment E: Probation's Juvenile Detention Facilities COVID Management Plan
- Attachment F: Probation's Juvenile Detention Facilities COVID Action Levels

Authored by:

Shawn E. Small, Deputy Chief Probation Officer