



# **Sheriff's Office**

## **Inmate Medical and Behavioral Health Contracts**

**May 3, 2022**



# Introduction

- In response to the Board of Supervisors request, the Sheriff's Office is providing information on medical/dental and behavioral health services agreements in the adult detention facilities; specifically
  - contract status,
  - staffing, and
  - service delivery.
- Services are delivered as required by the standards and guidelines of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15 Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities.



# Inmate Medical & Dental

- Provided via a contract with California Forensic Medical Group, Inc. (CFMG) awarded as a result of a County-approved competitive bidding process.
  - Approved by the Board on October 26, 2021 for a term of 5 years with two, one-year options to extend
  - Based on an average daily inmate (ADP) of 1,000 inmates
  - Annual cost in FY 22-23 is estimated to be \$8,683,131
- Most recent Agreement was the product of a Request For Proposal process in 2020 where CFMG/Wellpath was the only bidder.



# Inmate Medical & Dental Services

- Medical/Dental health care services under the current Agreement Includes, but are not limited to:
  - Title 15 inmate medical and dental healthcare services, 24 hours/day; 7 days/week
  - Sole responsibility for clinical decisions and actions regarding medical, dental, and nursing judgements
  - Completion of initial health assessments/screening to identify special oversight, treatment needs, and critical conditions health maintenance exams, dental care, sick calls
  - Communicable disease management, HIV/AIDS testing and counseling, infectious outbreaks and pandemic events
  - Identify admission deferrals to offsite emergency care
  - Chronic care management
  - Individualized treatment and discharge plans and medication
  - Detox and substance use disorder treatment, withdrawal management
  - Pharmaceutical and therapeutic diet prescriptions and management
  - Coordination of off-site inmate medical care including billing and payment services



# Inmate Medical & Dental Staffing

- Positions added to achieve goal of accreditation from National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC)
  - 4.2 FTE dedicated Booking RN
  - 1.0 FTE RN for health assessments
  - .60 FTE Discharge Planner to assist with Medication Assisted Therapy Program.
- Hiring and retaining all medical staff, including Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN), Certified Nursing Assistants (CAN), and particularly Registered Nurses (RN), continues to present challenges, due primarily to:
  - Persistent National nursing shortage
  - Covid-19 Pandemic and challenges of working in congregate living facility
  - Sheriff's background clearance requirements
  - Difficult jail environment





# Inmate Behavioral Health

- From 1983 through the first quarter of 2017, jail based behavioral health services were provided by the County's Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Division.
- Services were implemented gradually in response to inmate needs, and over time were expanded as the needs and regulations increased.
- Inmate behavioral health services are currently provided through a contract with California Forensic Medical Group, Inc. (CFMG) awarded as a result of a County-approved competitive bidding process in late 2016.
  - CFMG was selected from a group of three responsive proposals
  - On May 24, 2017 the Board approved a 5 year Agreement with three, one-year options to extend.
  - Annual cost in FY 22-23 is estimated to be \$5,380,333



# Inmate Behavioral Health Services

- Under the current Agreement behavioral health care services include, but are not limited to:
  - Title 15 inmate behavioral healthcare services - clinical care provided by clinicians and psychiatric staff
  - Suicide prevention
  - Inmate programming - individual and group therapy
  - Pre-release services (discharge planning) - as an individual is preparing to be released from custody, a liaison helps connect that person to services (healthcare, counseling, housing, employment services) in the community.
  - Restoration to competency services for qualifying inmates - to restore to competency individuals who have been determined by the Court incompetent to stand trial, and includes treatment and education services so the inmate is able to participate in their own defense.



# Extension of Current BH Contract

- Invoked extension option to allow time to prepare a comprehensive Request for Proposal (RFP)
  - In 2017 the Board delegated the authority to execute up to three one-year extensions.
  - Through an amendment, the Sheriff has executed the option to extend the original agreement for one year, from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
    - Additional oversight provisions were added to the Amendment
- Behavioral Health Services RFP will be issued in the fall of 2022
- Anticipate returning to the Board with a recommended provider in the spring of 2023.





# Contract Oversight

- Internal audit mechanisms include:
  - Monthly meetings with CFMG/Wellpath and Detention Custody staff
  - Quarterly Quality Assurance meetings conducted with participation from County Public Health, County Counsel, County Behavioral Health, CFMG/Wellpath, Sheriff's Office, and other medical/hospital community stakeholders.
  - Annual peer review is conducted for CFMG doctors
- Third party audits include:
  - Board of State and Community Corrections – every two years
  - Prison Rape Elimination Act – every three years
  - CA Medical Association Institute of Medical Quality / National Commission on Correctional Health Care.



# Contract Oversight

- Additional Oversight provisions added to existing medical/dental contract and behavioral health contract amendment:
  - liquidated damages clause
  - quarterly contractor staffing reports
- Additional oversight provisions being considered for inclusion in upcoming behavioral health services RFP include:
  - liquidated damages clause
  - quarterly contractor staffing reports
  - Alternative payment language



# QUESTIONS