

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Comprehensive Inmate Healthcare Services for Muscogee County Jail (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 22-0016
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council authorize the execution of an annual contract with Wellpath, LLC (Nashville, TN) for comprehensive healthcare services for offenders incarcerated at the Muscogee County Jail.

Wellpath, LLC will provide services that conform with all applicable standards, including those established by the National Commission of Correctional Healthcare (NCCHC), and applicable administrative rules of the Muscogee County Jail, to include:

- Health history interview, physicals and dental exams
- Triaging of complaints
- Sick call
- Hospital care (15-bed space medical housing at the Jail)
- Specialty services
- Emergency services
- Ancillary services (make provisions for ambulance services, onsite x-ray providers, prescription drugs, laboratory services, and biohazard disposal/providers)
- Referral arrangements with medical specialists for treatment of issues beyond the scope of the onsite services
- Medical records
- Medical and office supplies
- Pharmaceutical services
- Health education
- Appropriate staffing of medical professionals
- Daily and monthly reports
- Program support services

Annual Contract History:

The previous 5-year contract was awarded to CorrectHealth Muscogee, LLC on August 28, 2018, per Resolution No. 314-18. However, the Sheriff chose to cancel the contract, revise the specifications to fit the needs of his office, and readvertise the services.

RFP Advertisement and Receipt of Proposals:

RFP specifications were posted on the web page of the Purchasing Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry and DemandStar on October 12, 2021. This RFP has been advertised, opened, and evaluated. Four proposals were received on December 17, 2021 from the following firms:

Wellpath, LLC (Nashville, TN)

Mediko Correctional Healthcare (Richmond, VA)

*Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc. (Franklin, TN)

*Quality Correctional Health Care (Birmingham, AL)

*Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc. and Quality Correctional Health Care both took exceptions to the RFP. The Evaluation Committee found the exceptions to be unacceptable. Consequently, the firms' proposals were rejected and did not receive further consideration. The Purchasing Division forwarded written notification to both firms.

The following events took place after receipt of the proposal.

RFP MEETINGS/EVENTS		
Description	Date	Agenda/Action
Pre-Evaluation Meeting	01/10/2022	The Purchasing Manager advised evaluation committee members of the RFP rules and process, and the using department representative provided an overview. Proposals were emailed to each committee member to review.
1 st Evaluation Meeting	01/31/2022	The committee discussed each proposal. Two of the firms included exceptions that were not acceptable to the committee. Consequently, per the RFP specifications, the firms' proposals were rejected and did not receive further consideration. The committee determined clarifications were necessary for one of the two responsive firms.
Clarification Requested	02/01/2022	Clarification was requested from one of the two responsive firms.
Clarification Received	02/03/2022	Clarification was received and forwarded to the committee, who did not require additional clarification. It was decided to invite the two responsive firms to provide presentations of their proposals.
Evaluation Forms Sent	02/07/2022	Evaluation forms were forwarded to the voting committee members.
Evaluation Forms Received	02/13/2022	The final set of evaluation forms were received.
Presentations and Request for Best and Final Offer	02/28/2022	Both vendors provided presentations of their proposal and were requested to provide their best and final offer.
Best and Final Offers Received and Evaluation Ballots	03/01/2022	The best and final offer responses and evaluation ballots were forwarded to the voting committee members. The voting committee members unanimously recommended award to Wellpath, LLC.

Evaluation Committee:

The proposals were reviewed by voting members of the Evaluation Committee, which consisted of two voting members from the Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office and one voting member from the Clerk of Superior Court.

A representative from the Columbus Fire and EMS Department and a representative from the Clerk of Municipal Court served as alternate voters.

An additional representative from the Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office and a representative from the City Attorney’s Office served as non-voting advisors.

Award Recommendation:

Based on the evaluation ballots results, the voting committee members unanimously recommended award to Wellpath, LLC.

Vendor Qualifications/Experience:

- WellPath, LLC was established in 2018 by the merger of Correct Care Solutions and Correctional Medical Group Companies. Wellpath, LLC has over 38 years of nationwide experience in medical and behavioral healthcare.
- The company is privately owned and has more than 15,000 employees, who provide healthcare services to nearly 300,000 in 34 states. The patients are in correctional facilities, state psychiatric hospitals, forensic treatment facilities, and civil commitment centers.
- The company has a home office in Nashville, Tennessee with regional offices in Atlanta, Georgia; Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Louisville, Kentucky; Augusta, Maine; Foxboro, Massachusetts; Lansing, Michigan; and Lemoyne, Pennsylvania. The company also has offices in San Diego, California and Deerfield Beach, Florida.
- The company has a 100% success rate in their accreditation efforts.
- Below are the last five clients for which the firm has provided same or similar services:

DeKalb County Sheriff’s Office 2011 - present
 Comprehensive medical services for approximately 3,400 inmates housed in the DeKalb County Jail in Decatur, Georgia.

Durham County Dept./Office of the Sheriff 2004 - present
 Comprehensive healthcare services for approximately 659 adults housed in the Durham County Detention Facility and approximately 14 juveniles housed in the Durham County Youth Home in Durham, North Carolina.

Cobb County Sheriff’s Office 2020 - present
 Comprehensive medical services for approximately 2,100 inmates housed in the Cobb County Adult Detention Center in Marietta, Georgia.

Augusta-Richmond County, GA

2011 - present

Comprehensive healthcare services for approximately 1,100 inmates housed in the Charles B. Webster Detention Center and the Richmond County Correctional Institution in Augusta, Georgia.

New Hanover County Sheriff's Office

2007 - present

Comprehensive healthcare services for approximately 650 inmates housed in the New Hanover County Detention Facility in Castle Hayne, North Carolina.

The City's Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-110 (Competitive Sealed Proposals (Negotiations), governs the RFP Process. During the RFP process, there is no formal opening due to the possibility of negotiated components of the proposal. In the event City Council does not approve the recommended offeror, no proposal responses or any negotiated components are made public until after the award of the contract. Therefore, the evaluation results and cost information has been submitted to the City Manager in a separate memo for informational purposes.

Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Sheriff – Medical – Consulting; 0101 – 550 – 2650 – MEDD – 6315.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH WELLPATH, LLC (NASHVILLE, TN) FOR COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR OFFENDERS INCARCERATED AT THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL.

WHEREAS, an RFP was administered (RFP No. 22-0016) and four proposals were received; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal submitted by Wellpath, LLC met all proposal requirements and was deemed most responsive to the RFP; and,

WHEREAS, the contract period shall be for two years, with the option to renew for three additional twelve-month periods. Contract renewal is contingent upon the mutual agreement of the City and the Contractor.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an annual contract with Wellpath, LLC (Nashville, TN) for comprehensive healthcare services for offenders incarcerated at the Muscogee County Jail. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Sheriff – Medical – Consulting; 0101 – 550 – 2650 – MEDD – 6315.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2022 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

- Councilor Allen voting _____.
- Councilor Barnes voting _____.
- Councilor Crabb voting _____.
- Councilor Davis voting _____.
- Councilor Garrett voting _____.
- Councilor House voting _____.
- Councilor Huff voting _____.
- Councilor Thomas voting _____.
- Councilor Tucker voting _____.
- Councilor Woodson voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor