

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Mental Health Services for Muscogee County Prison
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council authorize the execution of a contract with New Horizons Community Service Board dba New Horizons Behavioral Health (Columbus, GA) for mental health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison for a one-year period. New Horizons Behavioral Health will provide five telephone consultations and contract administration in the amount of \$500.00 per month. Provider services will be \$150.00 per hour; clinician services will be \$100.00 per hour; psychologist services will be \$100.00 per hour; and additional consultations beyond the five monthly telephone consultations will be \$50.00 per call.

Per Resolution No. 149-19, Columbus Council authorized the execution of a contract with New Horizons Behavioral Health for comprehensive mental health services for inmates incarcerated at Muscogee County Jail, which was procured via RFP No. 19-0017. The RFP specified that services would also be required for inmates at Muscogee County Prison. In an email dated April 5, 2022, a New Horizons Behavioral Health representative informed the Purchasing Division that the Sheriff’s Office opted not to renew the contract. Per Resolution No. 168-22, the Muscogee County Jail’s inmate medical and pharmacy services contract with Wellpath, LLC was amended to include mental health services. Resolution No. 168-22 also authorized the Muscogee County Prison to negotiate and acquire inmate mental health services from Wellpath, LLC by cooperative purchase, utilizing the same contract. To date, the City has not received an agreement from Wellpath, LLC for mental health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison.

On July 31, 2023, the Muscogee County Prison provided specifications for the Purchasing Division to obtain a quote from New Horizons Behavioral Health for inmate mental health services. The Purchasing Division requested a quote on August 2, 2023, and New Horizons Behavioral Health submitted a quote on August 11, 2023. On September 12, 2023, the Muscogee County Prison emailed approval of the quote.

New Horizons Behavioral Health will provide the following services:

- Bi-monthly (every 8 weeks) visits to the Muscogee County Prison. Visits may be conducted during evenings and weekends.
- Telephone consultation with nursing staff at Muscogee County Prison.
- Suicide Assessment and Suicide Watch: Muscogee County Prison inmates on suicide watch will receive daily reassessment visits from the Mental Health Professional.

- Psychiatric Services
- Medication Management
- 24-hour Crisis Intervention
- Referral and information for Muscogee County Prison inmates receiving mental health services prior to release.

The City has yet to receive an agreement for mental health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison. Additionally, Muscogee County Prison staff informed the Purchasing Division that CorrectHealth Muscogee, LLC, the current medical and pharmacy services provider for MCP inmates, did not respond to MCP's request for a quote to provide mental health services. Consequently, the one-year contract with New Horizons, will allow the prison to receive needed services from the previously awarded vendor, while allowing time for a new RFP to be developed and advertised.

Funding is available each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: Funds are available in the FY24 Budget: General Fund - MCP - Warden – Consulting; 0101 – 420 – 1000 – MCCI - 6315.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH NEW HORIZONS COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD DBA NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (COLUMBUS, GA) FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR INMATES AT MUSCOGEE COUNTY PRISON FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD. NEW HORIZONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WILL PROVIDE FIVE TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS AND CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 PER MONTH. PROVIDER SERVICES WILL BE \$150.00 PER HOUR; CLINICIAN SERVICES WILL BE \$100.00 PER HOUR; PSYCHOLOGIST SERVICES WILL BE \$100.00 PER HOUR; AND ADDITIONAL CONSULTATIONS BEYOND THE FIVE MONTHLY TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS WILL BE \$50.00 PER CALL.

WHEREAS, per Resolution No. 149-19, Columbus Council authorized the execution of a contract with New Horizons Behavioral Health for comprehensive mental health services for inmates incarcerated at Muscogee County Jail, which was procured via RFP No. 19-0017. The RFP specified that services would also be required for inmates at Muscogee County Prison. In an email dated April 5, 2022, a New Horizons Behavioral Health representative informed the Purchasing Division that the Sheriff's Office opted not to renew the contract; and,

WHEREAS, per Resolution No. 168-22, the Muscogee County Jail's inmate medical and pharmacy services contract with Wellpath, LLC was amended to include mental health services. Resolution No. 168-22 also authorized the Muscogee County Prison to negotiate and acquire inmate mental health services from Wellpath, LLC by cooperative purchase, utilizing the same contract. To date, the City has not received an agreement from Wellpath, LLC for mental health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison; and,

WHEREAS, on July 31, 2023, the Muscogee County Prison provided specifications for the Purchasing Division to obtain a quote from New Horizons Behavioral Health for inmate mental health services. The Purchasing Division requested a quote on August 2, 2023, and New Horizons Behavioral Health submitted a quote on August 11, 2023. On September 12, 2023, the Muscogee County Prison emailed approval of the quote; and,

WHEREAS, the City has yet to receive an agreement for mental health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison. Additionally, Muscogee County Prison staff informed the Purchasing Division that CorrectHealth Muscogee, LLC, the current medical and pharmacy services provider for MCP inmates, did not respond to MCP's request for a quote to provide mental health services. Consequently, the one-year contract with New Horizons, will allow the prison to receive needed services from the previously awarded vendor, while allowing time for a new RFP to be developed and advertised.

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

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract with New Horizons Community Service Board dba New Horizons Behavioral Health (Columbus, GA) for mental

health services for inmates at Muscogee County Prison for a one-year period. New Horizons Behavioral Health will provide five telephone consultations and contract administration in the amount of \$500.00 per month. Provider services will be \$150.00 per hour; clinician services will be \$100.00 per hour; psychologist services will be \$100.00 per hour; and additional consultations beyond the five monthly telephone consultations will be \$50.00 each. Funding is available each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund - MCP - Warden – Consulting; 0101 – 420 – 1000 – MCCI - 6315.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2023 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting	_____
Councilor Barnes voting	_____
Councilor Begly voting	_____
Councilor Cogle voting	_____
Councilor Crabb voting	_____
Councilor Davis voting	_____
Councilor Garrett voting	_____
Councilor Huff voting	_____
Councilor Thomas voting	_____
Councilor Tucker voting	_____

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor