

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Inmate Mental Health Services for Muscogee County Jail and Muscogee County Prison per Amendments to the Contract for 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 negotiation of amendments to the contract awarded to Wellpath, LLC (Nashville, TN) for comprehensive inmate healthcare services for the Muscogee County Jail, to include **inmate mental health** services for the Muscogee County Jail and Muscogee County Prison. Amendment 1 for Muscogee County Jail has been preliminarily negotiated in the amount of \$71,455.00 per month, for an annual total of \$857,460.00. Additionally, the Sheriff’s Office has preliminarily agreed to pay up to \$25,000.00 to Wellpath, LLC for sign-on and retention bonuses for on-site mental health staff. Authorization is also requested to allow the Muscogee County Prison to negotiate and acquire inmate mental health services from Wellpath, LLC by cooperative purchase, utilizing the same contract. Amendment 1 for the Jail will commence on July 1, 2022.

Per Resolution No. 149-19, dated June 4, 2019, Council authorized the execution of a contract with New Horizon Community Service Board dba New Horizons Behavioral Health, for comprehensive mental health services for inmates. The contract will expire on June 30, 2022. The Muscogee County Sheriff’s is exercising its option to not renew the mental health contract.

Per Resolution No. 070-22, dated March 8, 2022, Council authorized the execution of a contract with Wellpath, LLC for inmate healthcare services for the Muscogee County Jail. The Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office desires to amend the inmate healthcare services contract to include mental health services; this will allow all medical and mental health services to be with one company, instead of two separate providers. The Muscogee County Prison is also exercising its right not to renew the mental health contract with New Horizons Community Service Board, and desires Wellpath, LLC to provide an inmate mental health at the Muscogee County Prison.

Wellpath, LLC will provide the following on-site services for the inmates:

1. Mental health screenings, evaluations and referrals
2. Mental health care requests
3. Crisis management
4. Treatment planning
5. Individual and group therapy
6. Prescribing psychotropic medications

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

Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Sheriff – Medical – Contractual Services; 0101-550-2650-MEDD-6319 and General Fund – Muscogee County Prison – Warden – Consulting: 0101-420-1000-MCCI-6315.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONTRACT AWARDED TO WELLPATH, LLC (NASHVILLE, TN) FOR COMPREHENSIVE INMATE HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL, TO INCLUDE INMATE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL AND MUSCOGEE COUNTY PRISON. AMENDMENT 1 FOR MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL HAS BEEN PRELIMINARILY NEGOTIATED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,455.00 PER MONTH, FOR AN ANNUAL TOTAL OF \$857,460.00. ADDITIONALLY, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE HAS PRELIMINARILY AGREED TO PAY UP TO \$25,000.00 TO WELLPATH, LLC FOR SIGN-ON AND RETENTION BONUSES FOR ON-SITE MENTAL HEALTH STAFF. THIS RESOLUTION ALSO AUTHORIZES THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY PRISON TO NEGOTIATE AND ACQUIRE INMATE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FROM WELLPATH, LLC BY COOPERATIVE PURCHASE, UTILIZING THE SAME CONTRACT. AMENDMENT 1 FOR THE MUSCOGEE COUNTY JAIL WILL COMMENCE ON JULY 1, 2022.

WHEREAS, per Resolution No. 149-19, dated June 4, 2019, Council authorized the execution of a contract with New Horizon Community Service Board dba New Horizons Behavioral Health, for comprehensive mental health services for inmates. The contract will expire on June 30, 2022. The Muscogee County Sheriff's Office is exercising its option to not renew the mental health contract; and,

WHEREAS, per Resolution No. 070-22, dated March 8, 2022, Council authorized the execution of a contract with Wellpath, LLC for inmate healthcare services for the Muscogee County Jail. The Muscogee County Sheriff's Office desires to amend the inmate healthcare services contract to include mental health services; this will allow all medical and mental health services to be with one company, instead of two separate providers; and,

WHEREAS, the Muscogee County Prison is also exercising its right not to renew the mental health contract with New Horizons Community Service Board, and desires Wellpath, LLC to provide an inmate mental health at the Muscogee County Prison.

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

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to negotiate amendments to the contract awarded to Wellpath, LLC (Nashville, TN) for comprehensive inmate healthcare services for the Muscogee County Jail, to include inmate mental health services for the Muscogee County Jail and Muscogee County Prison. Amendment 1 for Muscogee County Jail has been preliminary negotiated in the amount of \$71,455.00 per month, for an annual total of \$857,460.00. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office has preliminarily agreed to pay up to \$25,000.00 to Wellpath, LLC for sign-on and retention bonuses for on-site mental health staff.. This resolution also authorizes the Muscogee County Prison to negotiate and acquire inmate mental health services from Wellpath, LLC by cooperative purchase, utilizing the same contract. Amendment 1 for the

Jail will commence on July 1, 2022. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Sheriff – Medical – Contractual Services; 0101-550-2650-MEDD-6319 and General Fund – Muscogee County Prison – Warden – Consulting: 0101-420-1000-MCCI-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