



**Southern Health
Partners**

Your Partner In Affordable Inmate Healthcare

TN Corporate Office
2030 Hamilton Place Blvd., Ste. 140, Chattanooga, TN 37421
Phone: 423-553-5635 Fax: 423-553-5645

NC/SC Regional Office
111 Clebourne Street, Ste. 140, Fort Mill, SC 29715
Phone: 803-802-1492 Fax: 803-802-1495

MEMORANDUM

TO: All TX SHP Customer Sites

FROM: Carmen Hamilton, Contracts Manager

DATE: November 21, 2017

RE: Charges for PPD Solution

Please be advised of a change in how SHP Accounting will process costs/charges for PPD solution for inmate Tuberculosis testing. Due to required testing by State Regulations/Standards for Inmate Healthcare Services, and increasing costs of supplying PPD solution, which has doubled in cost if not more, SHP will no longer group PPD solution with other medical supply costs. Going forward, coinciding with the County's next annual contract rollover, in the event the Tuberculosis testing supplies/PPD solution is not funded/provided to the County by the State/through the Local Health Department, any costs for PPD solution provided through SHP will be processed as a pharmacy item, and thereby covered the same as other pharmacy expenses by the cost pool terms of the County's contract. The costs of PPD solution will be applied toward the cost pool accounting totals to accrue against the annual pool limitation.

We are always hesitant to pass any extra costs on to our customers. However, the increasing costs of this item for required testing has had a significant impact on our site operating expenses, to the extent that SHP can no longer continue to fully absorb without looking to our counties to help share in the costs. We believe using the cost pool is a reasonable way to share in the costs together. SHP will appreciate the County's understanding, cooperation and support in this regard. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. My direct number in our NC/SC Regional office is 803-802-1492, or I can be reached by email at carmen.hamilton@southernhealthpartners.com.

Thank you for allowing Southern Health Partners to provide services for managing your facility's inmate healthcare needs.



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November 21, 2017

LeeAnn Jones, County Judge
Panola County Commissioners' Court
110 South Sycamore, Room 216-A
Carthage, TX 75633

Re Health Services Agreement

Dear Judge Jones

Southern Health Partners appreciates the opportunity to work with Panola County and the Sheriff's Office in managing the inmate medical needs at the Jail. The Health Services Agreement is coming up for renewal, and I am providing this letter to acknowledge a change in pricing terms for the 2018 period.

Over this next contract year, we will need an adjustment on our service rates to help us with costs. Many of our operating expenses have continued to go up, including those related to insurance, administration and travel, plus we must allow for higher fixed costs for items such as employee benefits and nurse wages. With nurse wage rates having risen considerably, and also taking into account the aspect of nurse shortages, offering competitive local area pay is essential to attracting and keeping well-qualified nurses working for us in corrections. We want to assure the County of our commitment to provide an exemplary program of care.

The pricing outlined below includes a 2% annual increase for 2018, which amounts to \$194.02 more per month on the base rate. Keep in mind this is less than CPI increase. This will give us a new per diem and base contract amount as follows:

Contract period	January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018
Base annualized fee	\$118,740.36 (\$9,895.03 per month)
Per diem greater than 60	\$1.37
Annual outside cost pool limit	\$20,000.00

As always, if you have any questions related to the contract or SHP's services, feel free to give me a call. I'll be glad to assist. You can reach me direct in our NC/SC Regional Office at 803-802-1492. I will ask you to please keep this letter on file and return a signed copy to me by on or before December 15, 2017. A scanned email copy or faxed copy will be fine (803-802-1495 direct fax or email carmen.hamilton@southernhealthpartners.com). Except as noted above, or as may be modified or amended by mutual written agreement between the parties, all provisions of the contract will remain in full force and effect.

Thank you in advance. We look forward to continuing a successful partnership with the County for many years to come.

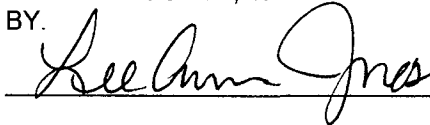
Sincerely,

SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS, INC


Carmen Hamilton
Contracts Manager

/cph

PANOLA COUNTY, TX

BY: 

1212-11

cc: Sheriff Kevin Lake