



Southern Health Partners

Your Partner In Affordable Inmate Healthcare

November 2, 2018

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

Re: Health Services Agreement

Dear Judge Jones:

Thank you for allowing SHP the opportunity to partner with Panola County and the Sheriff's Office in managing the inmate medical care needs. The County's business is important to us, and we want to continue working together for a long time to come.

With the Health Services Agreement renewal approaching, I am writing to let you know SHP will need an annual adjustment on the contract to help keep pace with the current market in attracting and retaining strong, well-qualified staff in corrections and the growing costs of providing medical services. Staffing is just one area where we continue to experience increased costs with industry-wide nursing shortages heavily impacting our site budgets, in terms of keeping consistent coverage in place and offering competitive local-area pay. Increased patient acuity has also increased our resource needs. Plus, we must account for other operating expenses which unfortunately do continue to go up each year (such as insurance/benefits, administration and travel). We are committed to keeping the contract priced reasonably while providing the highest level of quality care for the inmates.

A 3% annual increase has been figured on the contract based on continuation of the program at the current level of staffing and services. This will give us a new per diem and base contract amount as follows:

Contract Period:	January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019
Base annualized fee:	\$122,302.56 (\$10,191.88 per month)
Per diem greater than 60:	\$1.41
Annual outside cost pool limit:	\$20,000.00

Of course, if you have any questions, concerns or needs, please feel free to call me direct in our NC/SC Regional Office at 803-802-1492. I'll be more than happy to assist. For the historical contract record, I will ask you to keep this letter and return a signed copy to me by on or before December 15, 2018. A scan to email or faxed copy will be fine (803-802-1495 direct fax or email carmen.hamilton@southernhealthpartners.com). Except as stated herein, or as may be amended or modified in writing by mutual agreement of the parties, all provisions of the contract will remain in full force and effect.

Thank you in advance. We look forward to continuing services for an excellent customer.

Sincerely,

Carmen Hamilton
Contracts Manager

PANOLA COUNTY, TX

BY:

/cph

cc: Sheriff Kevin Lake