

INFIRMARY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR COUNTY JAILS & DETENTION FACILITIES

BATCH 1

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – ANTICIPATED

BUDGET & EXPENDITURES

1. Are you receiving any medical services which are not charged to your medical budget?

*HIV TESTING
TROPICAL TEXAS*

2. Are any overrun or unbudgeted expenses anticipated? If yes, please estimate.

YES – outpatient services \$80,000

3. What is the current actual cost (annual) to the County for inmate medical, dental and mental health services?

see Budget – Exhibit 7

4. Please provide a breakdown by category if available (e.g. salaries, benefits, on-site subcontracted providers, pharmacy, and off-site medical services such as Hospital, physician fees, etc.).

see Budget – Exhibit 7

5. Please provide the amount allocated in the County's most recent fiscal year budget for inmate medical, dental and mental health services.

see Budget – Exhibit 7

6. Does the County receive discounted rates for services provided outside the facility through a preferred provider network, through negotiated contracts with community providers (hospitals, ambulance service, specialists, etc.) or by any other special arrangement? If yes, please describe.

Yes – Cameron County has agreements to pay Medicare rates with the exception of vision.

7. Please provide a list of current medical, dental and mental health staff positions; the number of hours worked weekly for each; **and the hourly pay rate for each.**

*Psychologist – 10 hrs pr/week
Psychologist – 4 hrs pr/week
Mental Health Counselor – 40 hours pr/week
Tropical Texas MHMR as needed
Pay rates – see Attached Exhibits 11, 12, 13*

8. Does your Nursing staff work 12 or 10 or 8 hour shifts?

8 hour shifts

9. Is your facility running fully staffed clinical positions?

1 Medication Aide, 1 LVN, 1 Clerk

10. Does the County purchase pharmaceuticals through a special purchasing agreement? Is yes, please describe and provide the name of the current vendor?

YES – WESTWOOD PHARMACY

11. What ADP is to be used as the basis for pricing?

1,200

12. Regarding ADP, are any significant changes anticipated by the County over the next year?

NO

13. Page 48, item 28 & pg 62, item 2 neither the County nor the provider will be responsible for emergency off-site hospitalization expenses (including follow-up care) associated with an injury sustained by a person during a lawful arrest and/or pre-existing illness/injury. Who is responsible for the cost of these circumstances?

INMATE

14. Can you please confirm the salaries listed on the attachment includes, or excludes benefits?

The schedules include benefits.

15. For the last two years, please provide the annual costs of:

Ambulance Transports
ER Visits (total, and how many resulting in admission)
Hospital Inpatient Costs
Outpatient Surgeries
Outpatient Specialty Visits
Outpatient Radiology Visits
Outpatient Dialysis
Other Outpatient Visits
On-Site Radiology
Pharmaceuticals
By patient, Off-Site Care Costs totaling over \$15,000 in one year

SEE BUDGET

16. How much of the cost in annually was associated with pre-booking medical services?

There is no cost for pre-booking medical services.

EQUIPMENT/ SUPPLIES / INVENTORY / SPACE

23. Will the existing inventory of supplies be available at no charge to the contractor at the beginning of the contract? If not, will the vendor be expected to purchase the supplies? At what cost?

No. Cost to vendor will be tallied on last day before contract begins.. Check for costs expected from Vendor within 30 days.

24. Please provide the cost of inventory and equipment expected to be paid by the provider.

Cost to vendor of inventory, Infirmary consumables such as gloves, soap, medicines, syringes, etc., will be tallied on last day before contract. Check for costs expected from Vendor within 30 days. Equipment will be inventoried in similar fashion and may be used by vendor during contract with maintenance and/or replacement costs on vendor except for copier answered elsewhere herein. All equipment utilized by vendor to be returned to County upon expiration of contract usual wear and tear excepted. Other equipment needed by vendor shall be furnished by vendor at vendor's expense.

25. Please provide an existing equipment inventory for the medical unit. Will all existing equipment be made available at no charge to the contractor?

Provided in RFP – Yes

26. What is the general condition of all major medical equipment? Who is responsible for the repair and maintenance of existing medical equipment?

All equipment is fairly new and the vendor will be responsible

27. Who is responsible for the purchase of new medical equipment? Is there a cost amount that defines whether a purchase is considered equipment? Are there any equipment needs of which you are aware?

Vendor - 200 - no

28. Will the agency provide the Vendor office equipment and inmate waiting room chairs?

YES

29. Is the vendor required to maintain maintenance agreements on equipment and pay for facility licenses?

YES

30. Who will own the equipment if purchased by the vendor?

VENDOR

31. Will the county provide a photocopier for use by the vendor?

YES However the Vendor/proposer shall be required to reimburse the County for the costs of the four copiers available presently at approx. \$580.00/month (for all 4) until copier contract expiration in May, 2022. Thereafter Vendor to provide copier at Vendor's expense.

32. What is the current number of Medication Carts in use at each facility?

*3- Medication Carts @ CRDC
2 – DCI
1 - OCJ
they are Cameron County property*

HEALTH RECORDS

33. RFP Pg 30— II. Medical Department Design — Where will Health Records be located?

in the Infirmary

34. How long are health records required to be kept on site?

5 years

35. What is the current procedure for archiving or destruction of old records?

old records exceeding 5 years of age are shredded

36. Is Cameron County interested in an electronic medical record?

YES

MENTAL HEALTH

37. Do the average hospital visits include or exclude Mental Health hospital stays?

Mental Health is excluded.

38. What mental health services are currently available to inmates? Who provides these services?

Tropical Texas - Dr. James Freeberg - Dr. Francisco Torres - Dr. Almeida

39. What is the average number of inmates receiving mental health services?

50-60 inmates

40. Are any beds designated for mental health observation? If so, how many?

roughly 30

41. What is the procedure for inpatient mental health confinement of an inmate outside of the facility? Who pays for this?

We must obtain a section and the inmate will be responsible

42. Are there special mental health centers (housing units) staffed by mental health professionals and levels of care specific to inmate's acuity?

We have 2 pods that house mental health inmates if needed.

43. Is there an expectation that psychological evaluations for parole or probation be conducted? If yes, how many are done per month and what is the time frame from the request to the need to produce the written evaluation? What qualifications are required of the person doing the evaluations?

Yes - This will be court ordered and will be conducted by a Dr.

1 or 2 per month

The Court order specifies the required completion date & time

The Court determines the qualifications

44. When required to use County Mental Health facilities, how is the requirement funded? For example, would the vendor be required to use county staff?

There is no County Mental Health Facility

The Inmate must obtain a PR Bond.

Inmate is then released to a Mental Health Facility at no charge to the County

45. Is a mental health evaluation needed on all inmates with mental health issues who are incarcerated for longer than one year? How does Cameron County handle this currently?

Tropical Texas has regular F/U every 12 weeks and Dr. Freeberg 4-6 weeks.

Mental Health evaluations are performed as Inmates enter the Jail.

Mental health is done on an as needed basis thereafter.

46. Does the County require that a psychiatrist evaluate all offenders who are deemed to be a danger to themselves or others, or can this evaluation/assessment be completed by a mental health professional?

If Tropical Texas MHMR patient refer to Tropical Tropical Texas MHMR if not refer to Dr. Freeberg or Dr. Torres

47. What is the expectation of both on-site and offsite mental health services from the provider?

all mental health performed on site

48. Will mental health staff be expected to be on site daily at each facility? If not, which facilities will require full-time presence of MH staff?

The Mental Health Counselor is on site daily and travels to each site on an as needed basis daily

49. On **page 55 Section XVII**, it states that "A licensed practical counselor(s) shall be available in accordance with NCCHC staffing requirements". Can the county confirm that the vendor may hire any discipline of a master's level licensed mental health professional?

YES

50. How many inmates are on psychotropic medications? What percentage of your population is currently on psychotropic medication?

43%

51. Do the mental health clinicians carry a regular caseload of mentally ill inmates they see on a regular basis? If so, how many inmates are typically on the mental health caseload?

YES – typically 15 to 20 patients per clinic

52. Will the vendor be responsible to provide Substance Abuse Treatment (if applicable)?

YES

53. On pg. **47 of the RFP, Section IV. 23**, It states that the provider shall perform a mental health evaluation on any inmate/detainee no later than three (3) calendar days after such an examination is indicated (**referring to Section IV.22**). Can you clarify that the examination is indicated after an inmate is confined after 72 hours?

YES

54. What, if any, mental health groups are expected to be provided by the vendor and how often?

not sure what is meant by "Groups"

55. Please provide all of the mental health services which are currently provided.

PSYCHIATRIST – PSYCHOLOGIST – MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR (Trop Tex MHMR)

56. Can the County please provide the vendor with annual Suicide rates/total numbers per year, for the past 5 years?

YES - 1 EACH

57. Please provide the average # of inmates on suicide watch daily. Please confirm that officers provide the suicide watches.

30 - YES

58. What types/levels of suicide watch are currently in place?

ONE TO ONE AND OBSERVATION LOGS

59. Does the jail provide any special mental health housing areas/units? If so, how many beds per unit/area?

YES - 3 each 8 man cells & 6 single cells & 3 padded cells

60. Can a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner alternate call with a licensed psychiatrist?

YES

61. Please provide the system currently in place to provide mental health services to this population and the associated staffing costs.

Cameron County contracts with psychiatrist, Dr. James Freeburg and compensates Dr. Freeburg \$6,000 monthly. In addition, Cameron County sends inmates to Tropical Texas on an emergency basis (no cost to County).

62. Please provide the number of hours per week provided by a psychiatrist.

Cameron County utilizes a psychologist Dr. James Freeburg 8 hours per week

Med Dir

63. On page 27, item 1.a. please describe who the on-site Medical Service Director is and what is the # of hours per week expected for this position?

Dr Alberto Almeida approx. 8 hrs per week & on call 24/7

64. The RFP requests a copy of the Medical Services Director's resume to be included in RFP, please clarify the position (MD, Administrator, RN)?

The Proposer's staffing should include a full time position. The Medical Service Director can be the full time Physician or any other person as determined by the Proposer.

65. Please clarify the requirement for a "Medical Services Director" and what this position is responsible for that would not be covered by the Site Physician.

Medical Service Director is the Physician

66. Please clarify the requirement that the proposer must identify and provide the resume and qualifications of a proposed Medical Services Director (assuming that the answer to the previous question is that the "Physician" is the same person as the "Medical Services Director"). Is it the county's intention that the Proposer identify a replacement for the current Site Physician?

No replacement for current physician is needed

67. Page 23, #8 personnel states there is one contracted physician, is the physician full time? Is this physician considered the Medical Director as identified on page 24?

YES

68. Please clarify the requirement for a "Medical Services Director" and what this position is responsible for that would not be covered by the Site Physician.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR IS PHYSICIAN

69. Page 26, #8 states the medical services director shall be responsible for resolving inmate or staff grievances. Is the medical services director here considered the health services administrator, or the physician serving in the role of medical director?

HEALTH SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR

PHARM

70. Who is your current pharmacy supplier?

WESTWOOD PHARMACY

71. Please provide the number of prescriptions per inmate?

Varies - average of 3 per inmate

72. How many inmates receive Hepatitis C treatment? What is the nature of the treatment?

NONE

73. How are medications delivered and dispensed: patient-specific or stock/pill line?

BOTH

74. Where are medications administered?

IN CELL BLOCKS

75. Are medications administered by nurses or correctional staff?

MEDICATION AIDES/ MEDICAL STAFF

How often?

UP TO 3 TIMES DAILY

76. Is there a self-administration or "keep-on-person" medication system?

YES

77. Are OTCs available through the commissary? If so, please provide a listing.

YES

78. What form of psychotropic medications is currently being used—liquid or tablet? Please address the use of atypical antipsychotics.

Tablets & injections

79. Please provide the number of HIV patients and the number of inmates on HIV therapy by drug type?

5

80. Can pharmacy techs administer medication?

NO

81. What is the ability to use stock medications?

ROUTINELY UTILIZED

99. What is the nature of the treatment?

0

100. How are medications delivered and dispensed: patient-specific or stock/pill line?

both

PHYSICALS

101. On a Monthly Average over the last two years, please provide the number of:

14-Day Physicals completed – *NO PHYSICALS DONE*

Nurse Sick Call Visits - 2200

MD Sick Call Visits- 125

X-rays Performed On-site – 100

Mental Health Assessments - 60

Mental Health Visits – 30

Dental Visits – 2-5

Pregnant Inmates/Deliveries - 5

Ambulance Transports - 5

Total ER Visits - 10

ER Visits resulting in a hospital admission - 1

Hospital Admissions - 5

Hospital Inpatient Days - 2

Outpatient Surgeries – 5

Outpatient Specialty visits – 3

Outpatient Radiology visits - 2

Other Outpatient Visits – 2

Suicide Attempts - 0

Suicides Completed - 1

Inmate Deaths, not including suicide - 1

Patients on Prescription Medications - 200

Patients on Psychotropic Medications – 43%

Patients on HIV Medications - 5

Chronic Care Patient Visits - 2

On-site Specialty Care Visits by Type (Oft Ortho, Cardiology, etc.) - 5

PPDs Planted - 600

Positive PPDs - 100

Patients with STDs (Chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, etc.) - 5

Prescription Eyeglasses - 2

Grievances Filed in Relation to Medical Services - 2

PROVIDERS

102. What portion of your current medical program is subcontracted to outside providers or government agencies? Please list the providers, the services provided, and include a copy of your contract with each of them.

*Prenatal care, HIV care, mental health care
No Contracts*

103. What hospitals are currently being utilized by the facility? For each hospital please provide the following:

Valley Baptist Medical Center and Valley Regional Medical Center

- Contact Person *To be determined*
- Telephone Number *VB (956) 698-5445 VR (956) 350-7000*
- Distance from facility *12 miles 4 miles*
- Availability of “secure” ward *Yes Yes*

104. Can you give me a breakdown on the admission volumes at each of the hospital facilities used in FY 2016 - just the number of admissions for each?

Infirmiry Services does not have figures for inpatient admissions. RFP states 5 months average

hospital visits for a five month period of June-October 2008.

1 Hospital admission per month (approx)

10 ER visits per month (approx)

105. Identify whether the following services are available on-site or off-site, the frequency (hours or visits per week/month), and who provides the service:

- Specialty Clinics (please specify which clinics and frequency) - *off site*
- Dental - off – *If inmate has insurance they determine – if no insurance Olmito Family Dentistry*
- Oral Surgery - off – *If inmate has insurance they determine – if no insurance Olmito Family Dentistry*
- Pharmacy - *off*
- Optometry (annual amount of eyeglasses provided and cost) off – *if inmate has insurance they determine – if no insurance Gulf Coast Eye Institute*
- Laboratory – *on site*
- Radiology (specify mobile or fixed equipment) – *on site RGV Mobile X- Ray*
- Fluoroscopy – *off site Hospital*
- Mammography – *off site Hospital*
- Physical Therapy – *some inhouse – Hospital if inmate has Insurance or pre existing condition and Inmate determines*
- Dialysis – *off Devita Dialysis*
- Chronic Care Clinics (please specify which clinics and frequency) – *on site*

106. Are any providers offering “free” services (i.e. public health department, VA hospital, etc.)? If so, please list services provided and whether this is expected to continue.

no

107. Who is the current ambulance provider (provide contact phone number if available)?

City of Brownsville EMS

108. Please provide the names and contact information for your current specialty providers.

This list will be provided to the awarded Proposer as this list is coordinated with the contracted Jail Physician.

109. As the County is currently responsible for all off-site and specialty care services, please provide the total projected off-site costs for the last 12-month period.

Provided in Budget – in patient and out patient Hospital & non Emergency

110. Is there a requirement for MBE/WBE participation? If so please provide a listing of "approved" firms as well as current MBE providers.

NO

111. For off-site services please address the following: Does a nursing home have a secure ward? What provisions exist for respiratory isolation outside the facility? What restrictions exist on the secure ward in the hospital?

NO

Guard will be provided

No provisions for Respiratory

Currently no secure wards at Hospital – guards are provided by Jail staff

112. Please provide a list of all providers and vendors (e.g. OB/GYN, orthopedics, ENT, dermatology, nephrology, gastroenterology, etc.).

BROWNSVILLE COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC, VALLEY AIDS COUNCIL, QUEST LAB, WESTWOOD PHARMACY, BIO-OPS HAZARD, RIO GRANDE VALLEY X-RAY

SCHEDULE

113. Page 26 letter H. of the RFP calls for 24 hour onsite nursing for one facility and that the one facility is subject to approval; however, the scope of services section indicates 24 hour infirmary care is required at all locations. Please explain.

Nursing care is required 24/7 at all locations. We provide 24/7 nursing coverage 1st shift one nurse per building in the downtown facilities and 1-2 nurses at CRDC 2nd shift 1-2 nurses in the D/T facilities and 1-2 nurses at CRDC. 3rd shift consists of one nurse at CRDC and 1 nurse at D/T facility. Both RNs and LVNs float between facilities in order to provide 24/7 nursing care coverage. Jail Administrator and Jail Physician are on call 24/7.

114. Exhibit 1: Which positions listed in Exhibit 1 are currently staffed 24 hours per day?

LVNs

115. Please provide detailed staffing plans per site, per shift, and per discipline including providers.

SCHEDULE ATTACHMENT PROVIDED

116. Page 11 under purpose it states all services must be provided 7 days/week. Does this requirement include sick call, chronic care clinics are required 7 days/week?

SICK CALL YES – CHRONIC CARE YES

SERVICES

117. How many days per week by the physician?

4-5 days per week, See current contract

118. When does “official” booking occur? When does the contractor’s responsibility for medical expenses begin?

Official booking occurs during each shift and medical expenses occur if not pre-existing

119. Who currently performs the receiving screening - Correctional Officers, RNs, LPNs, or other employees?

LVN

120. When does TB and STD testing occur? Is HIV testing offered to all admitted inmates?

Tb testing during medical intake. STD NO

121. When are physical exams completed? Who completes the health history? Who performs the actual examination?

Each Shift , a licensed nurse

122. Where does sick call occur - in the medical unit, the housing units, or another location (please specify)?

In medical unit

123. How do inmates access sick call?

Per sick call request

124. What level of dental service is available to inmates?

extractions

125. What is the facility's medical grievance procedure?

A grievance office and Nursing staff work together to resolve any problems

126. Who is responsible for medical waste disposal?

Medical

127. Are there any special programs that you would like us to initiate or continue?

Up to vendor

128. How are end-of-life issues addressed?

Up to vendor

129. Is hospice used?

Not used

130. Where do diabetics receive their insulin?

In the infirmary

131. Can a person be held at the facility without being officially booked? If so, what is the maximum number of hours?

NO

132. Who is financially responsible for medical care when a prisoner is taken directly to the hospital prior to booking?

Inmate

133. What services are currently being provided via telemedicine?

NONE

STAFFING

134. How does the County currently handle staffing at the 3 facilities located near the Courthouse, i.e., on any given shift, do the nursing staff members float between the facilities, or do they just work exclusively at one of the 3 locations? How are these facilities presently covered by nursing during the 2nd and third shifts and weekends/holidays?

We provide 24/7 nursing coverage 1st shift one nurse per building in the downtown facilities and 1-2 nurses at CRDC 2nd shift 1-2 nurses in the D/T facilities and 1-2 nurses at CRDC. 3rd shift consists of one nurse at CRDC and 1 nurse at D/T facility. Both RNs and LVNs float between facilities in order to provide 24/7 nursing care coverage. Jail Administrator and Jail Physician are on call 24/7.

135. Please clarify how the County expects the provider to compensate employees who have contributed and are vested in current County retirement plan?

Reimbursement 100% to County based on salary and fringe, which will be deducted from the awarded vendors Proposal.

136. What positions are currently vacant?

1 LVN, 1 Medication Aide, 1 Clerk

137. Has there been difficulty in recruiting RNs, LPNs or other professional staff?

NO

138. What geographic area are employees being drawn from?

Locally

139. What is the percentage of staffing turnover and what discipline appears to be the greatest turnover?

6% LVNs

140. Please describe the scope and practice of LPN/LVN?

SEE State Board of Nursing

141. Are any agency or temporary employees being utilized? If so, list the position/s, days and shifts?

NO

142. What initial security orientation is required for medical personnel?

NONE

143. What is the cost of this orientation?

N/A

144. Are there additional annual orientations or training requirements?

NO

145. When were the last increases for salaries?

3 YEARS AGO

146. What pre-screening of employees is required fingerprinting, drug screening, rubella and measles, others?

Fingerprinting, criminal background checks

147. What is the level of involvement of state or county employees providing services through grants, independent agreements or any related areas?

NONE

148. Has the County or current vendor had medical staff recruitment or turnover issues in the past year? If yes, please describe.

NO

149. What are the current staffing vacancies by position and shift?

1 LVN, 1 Medication Aide, 1 Clerk

150. Are all of the positions listed in Exhibit 1 full time 40 hour per week positions? If not, how many hours per week does each one work?

YES ALL 40 HOURS - FULL TIME

STATISTICS

158. What are the community standards for treatment?

No one is denied care on account of inability to pay. The Cameron County Jail Infirmary meets minimum standards set by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards for furnishing health care to our inmates. It is an infirmary and is without the resources to furnish health care to be expected of a hospital setting. Whenever hospital care is required, inmates are transferred to nearby emergency rooms where hospital care is made available to our inmates as considered necessary.

159. Can we get statistics for the past 2 years?

No, it is encouraged to use statistics from a shorter time frame, since it is more representative of the current inmate population.

160. Can you give me a breakdown on the admission volumes at each of the hospital facilities used in FY 2016 - just the number of admissions for each?

1 admission per month

161. Break down of the average census number, gender and status (county Vs. Federal)

	County	County	Marshals	Marshals
Facility	Male	Female	Male	Female
CR	667	0	0	0
DC 1	0	0	212	0
DC2	75	70	0	0
GCI	50	0	134	0

162. How many intakes per day?

Bookings 50 –per day

163. What is the average number of patients with chronic illness?

Approximately 100 monthly

164. What percentage of inmates are HIV positive?

Five (5) currently

165. Is there an ADAP program?

NO

166. Are the following inmates housed in your facility (ies)? INS, U.S. Marshals, out-of-state or in-state jurisdictions and what ADP for each? What does the INS or U.S Marshals pay for?

YES - see brakedown previously provided

MISC:

AMBULANCE

167. Who is currently responsible for ambulance transport costs?

COUNTY

DRESS CODE

168. Page 20 & 27 refers to a Dress Code Policy. Please provide a copy of the current Dress Code Policy.

SCRUBS ONLY – NO CURRENT POLICY

DENTAL

169. How often is dental clinic held onsite in the dental area?

NEVER

171. Please provide name and contact information of current dentist?

There is no contract dentist

172. Please provide the name and contact information for the current dentist.

*Olmito Family Dentistry
Olmito, Texas
Phone*

173. What level of dental service is available to inmates?

off site extractions, fillings paid for by the Inmate

DRUG TESTING

174. RFP Pg 28 — 4. Clearance Requirements: Is there a minimum number or percentage of "random drug tests" per staffing levels that need to take place on a monthly or annual basis?

NONE

HIV

175. Who currently supplies HIV medications?

WESTWOOD PHARMACY

176. Please explain in detail the County's "discount" on HIV medications.

NO MEDICATION DISCOUNT

HIRING

177. Please specify if the County backfills temporarily open staff positions. If so, does the County backfill all medical positions?

NO BACKFILLS, HIRE AS NEEDED OR WHEN VACANCIES ARE MADE AVAILABLE

HOLIDAYS

178. Page 34 #3 inmate requests for medical services states sick call will be held a minimum of 5 days/week with the exception of Cameron County holidays. Please provide a listing of the county holidays.

7 DAYS PER WEEK INCLUDING HOLIDAYS

LAB

179. Who is the current lab supplier?

QUEST DIAGNOSTICS

180. Page 37, laboratory services discusses lab services and studies. It goes on to say the proposer will provide equipment and supplies to perform on-site lab testing as required by Texas Commission of Jail Standards. Please provide a listing of lab equipment, if any available on-site.

COUNTY HAS NO LAB EQUIPMENT ON SITE

181. Page 49, #35 discussed follow-up on screening and lab tests. It goes on to say T-cell testing shall only be administered when clinically indicated. Please provide the statistics of T-cell testing ofr the past 24 months.

NONE

MEDS

182. Can you please provide the facility policy regarding which licensed personnel may distribute prescriptive medication?

Medications are distributed by LVN and Med-Aides, are licensed are required in the Human Resources job description. – Facility Policy not available.

183. How many medication passes occur each day?

2-3 times per day

184. When do medication passes occur?

6 am – 12 noon – 6 pm

NCCHC

185. On page 24 of the RFP, it states the vendor will collaborate with Cameron County if NCCHC and ACA accreditation is feasible then on page 52, item 51 it states both Cameron County and Provider agree to work together to attain accreditation as expeditiously as possible and the provider will agree to a \$100,000 liquated damages penalty if provider fails to attain medical accreditation. Please explain – does Cameron County have an expectation that provider will attain NCCHC accreditation during the initial term of an agreement? If yes, is the provider responsible for the accreditation fees?

Yes and Vendor shall pay all fees.

193. Does the County wish to become NCCHC accredited, if so, what is your anticipated date for this?

Preferred

194. When was the most recent NCCHC audit date?

NONE

195. Is the facility currently accredited by the NCCHC, ACA, or other accrediting body? If so, please provide dates of accreditation, reaccreditation, and the next expected survey. If not, does the facility wish to pursue accreditation?

The Infirmary is in compliance with Texas Commission on Jail Standards requirements. No other accreditations apply. The costs of NCCHC and ACA are prohibitive.

ORIENTATION

196. Page 41, #2, new employee orientation — how long is the county orientation program?

4 HOURS

PRE EXISTING CONDITIONS

197. Page 48, #28 discusses financial responsibility for payment of emergency off-site medical hospitalizationgoes on to say sustained by a person during a lawful arrest and/or pre-existing illness/injury. Who determines what would qualify as the pre-existing condition that would be related to payment of off-site medical care/hospitalization?

PRIOR TO INCARCERATION – COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH PRE EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS WITH BE THE INMATES RESPONSIBILITY

RESUMES

198. Page 20, 2e: May job descriptions for key medical services staff be submitted instead of resumes? Positions will not be filled until after award. May we submit resumes then?

YES

SCREEN

199. Can Cameron County also provide the average number of Daily Medical Intake Screenings?

50 per day

TB

200. Does the County Department of Health (DOH) provide or pay for TB testing supplies, vaccine, or chest x-ray services? Will the selected vendor or DOH be responsible for these costs after the contract is awarded?

No, the County Department of Health (DOH) does not pay for TB testing supplies, vaccine, or Chest x-ray services. The selected vendor will be responsible. Yes, the selected vendor will be responsible for these costs after the contract is awarded.

201. What is the average number of County employees requiring TB skin testing annually?

The average number of County employees requiring TB skin testing annually is 400.

202. **Page 40, C:** Who will provide the medication required for Cameron County Sheriffs Office staff annual tuberculin skin testing?

Awarded Vendor

203. **Page 33** under medical assessment, states the medical assessment process will also include a tuberculin PPD skin test and a RPR if not previously completed. What is the time frame acceptable to be utilized for prior testing that would eliminate the need for repeat testing, PPD?

10 DAYS

204. **Page 40, C:** How many Cameron County Sheriff's Office staff annual tuberculin skin tests were performed in 2010?

400

205. The RFP states on page 40, Section C that the medical vendor will provide annual TB testing for Cameron County Sheriff's Office staff approximately how many employees per year will require this testing?

400

206. **Exhibit 1:** Are any current medical staff members unionized?

NO

USM

207. Of the projected 1,770 by November or December of 2010, how many inmates are projected to be US Marshalls? Federal? Ice?

NONE

208. **Page 12** under medical services where it discusses United States Marshal's Service will compensate for limited medical services for inmates under their supervision. It goes on to say services usually compensated by the US Marshal's Service are: medical services. Please clearly define what limited medical services the US Marshal's Service will compensate for and at what rate will the compensation be?

*PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS
APPROVED MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS*

209. Who is responsible for the negotiations with the US Marshall services? Who is responsible for payments to offsite providers for services provided to the USMS?

The Proposer is responsible for negotiations with the US Marshall service and is responsible for coordinating payments to offsite providers for services provided to the USMS unless the US Marshall service or Cameron County Sheriff requests otherwise.

Xray

210. Who is the current mobile x-ray supplier?

RGV MOBILE IMAGING

211. Is there an x-ray machine at any of the sites, if so which? If there is no machine, is there room for such to be provided and where? Please provide statistics relating to number of x-rays performed on site at each facility.

There is an x-ray machine at Carrizales-Rucker and the Old County Jail facility. The average number of x-rays done per month is 100.

GENERAL MISC.

212. Are dedicated medical personnel stationed at the intake area? If so, please provide the number of dedicated intake staff along with their professional licensure.

YES - 1 STATIONED LVN PER SHIFT

213. What is the average length of stay?

90 DAYS

214. Page 25, #6 states the Proposer will be responsible for all costs associated with the prescribing and dispensing of medications through the preferred provider and to monitor formulary utilization. Proposer can request price redetermination from Cameron County for abnormal AIDS-related medication costs. Can you provide a listing of abnormal AIDS-related medications? What is the process required for the proposer to go about requesting price re-determination?

FORMULARY PROVIDED

VENDOR AND PHARMACY THEY DECIDE TO USE WOULD MAKE THAT DETERMINATION

215. Page 40, section C discusses the proposer providing correctional personnel with ongoing structured health education to include., and other topics required by the Texas Commission of Jail Standards. Please provide a listing of what topics are required.

CHECK WITH TEXAS COMMISSION OF JAIL STANDARDS FOR THIS INFORMATION

216. Page 43, #5 discusses the responsibility of the provider for all medical care for all inmates of theIt goes on to state the responsibility of the provider for the medical care of an inmate/detainee to the custody of the Cameron County Sheriff, up to and including occasional requests for medical personnel during transfer of any inmate/detainee who requires specialized medical care and/or needs. Please provide detail as to frequency and rationale for these requests for the past 24 months.

NONE IN THE PAST 5 YEARS

217. Page 45, #16 discusses clients on extended limits of confinements, periods exceeding one year, will be provided.... Please provide the numbers of clients requiring the annual exam for the past 24 months.

TB OR CHEST X-RAY - 30 PER YEAR

218. Page 47, #22 discusses comprehensive health evaluation on any inmate/detainee confined at the detention facility for longer than 72 hours What percentage of the population are released within 72 hours?

30%

219. Page 47, #25 discusses services by off-site provider, who will be paid at Medicaid rates, who negotiates the Medicaid rates with the off-site providers?

THE AWARDED VENDOR WILL

220. Page 48, #29 discusses physician services rendered at local medical care facilitiesit goes on to say the physician shall make rounds at least once a week and up to 2 times per week as deemed necessary ... is the expectation the provider/jail physician would make rounds at the hospital? Please clarify.

NO HE DOES NOT MAKE THE ROUNDS AT THE HOSPITALS

221. Page 56, XVIII discusses provider insuring the prescription of the inmate/detainee for psychiatric medication covers a 14 day period from the date of discharge. What is the requirement for other types of medications to be provided upon release/discharge?

NONE

222. **Page 25 F** please describe billing deadlines and caps that are in place under the Medicaid rates in place with providers.

The cap is \$30,000.00.

223. Page 56, XXII discusses the Cameron County Detention Facilities that include a 192 bed Minimum Security Facility. Where is this located as far as proximity to the other facilities?

12 MILES AWAY

229. Please define the County's fiscal year relating to the figures given for HIV expenditures for FY **2008?** How many HIV patients are housed currently? How many of these patients are US Marshalls?

Currently there is a total of 5 HIV patients and 2 are US Marshall prisoners. The County pays for off site office visits at Medicaid rate and a \$5.00 co-pay for each medications.

230. Please confirm that there is no cost responsibility for onsite or offsite hemodialysis.

There is no cost to the county or the awarded bidder. The patient is responsible for cost.

231. What is the definition of "pre-existing" condition?

Any and all medical conditions that may require further hospitalizations or specialty care

232. Does the infirmary have medical isolation cells that are negative air pressure? If so, how many?

NO - all at CRDC 10

232. Who provides emergency transports?

City of Brownsville EMS

233. Does your state mandate HIV testing?

NO

234. Is there a cost for security clearance? How often is security clearance required?

NO - at hiring and later on an as needed basis

235. Is there a restriction on specific times a provider can deliver on-site care?

NO

236. Is the medical department responsible for providing physical exams, hepatitis vaccinations, or other services to correctional staff? If so, provide the approximate number per year.

We provide TB testing only

231. Please provide information about your detox protocol? Does the facility have a methadone program?

We Currently have a detox protocol and we do not accept methadone

237. Does the agency charge inmates for health care such as sick call and prescriptions?

\$2 for sick calls only

238. Are there mandated posts?

NO

239. Is there currently a pre-natal program in the jail, if so which location?

There is no pre-natal care program per se at the Cameron County Infirmary. Cameron County has a pregnancy policy and procedure implemented and offers pre-natal program at Brownsville Community Health Clinic.

240. Is there an ob/gyn on site clinic provided? If so how often and who is the current provider ?

NO -. Cameron County offers pre- natal program at Brownsville Community Health Clinic.

241. Approximately how many Sheriff staff would need CPR training on an annual basis?

We do not provide CPR training to the Deputies

242. Approximately how many Sheriff staff would need CPR training on an annual basis?

NONE

243. Are there any state regulatory or accrediting bodies involved?

Texas Commission on Jail Standards

244. What do state laws dictate regarding supervision? For example, can an LPN/LVN work independently?

All nurses work under Dr.'s license and under his policies and protocols. Any questions are referred to RN Infirmary Administrator and then on to Jail Physician if needed.

245. What inoculations/vaccines are required by the Cameron County Health Administrator for medical staff?

Those as required by the Texas Commission of Jail Standards.

246. What is the current monthly average weight and total number of boxes of medical waste? What vendor currently provides this service?

The current monthly average total number of boxes of medical waste is 8

The current vendor that provides this service is: Bio Ops

247. Please breakdown the custody level of different facilities.

*Old County Jail—Maximum security
Carrizalez Rucker—Maximum security
Detention Center 1—Medium security
Detention Center 2—Medium security*

248. Also, according to the RFP, an RPR (syphilis test) is required for each inmate at the Medical Assessment.

*RPR Test should be conducted in with Texas Commission of Jail Standards.
NO syphilis test done*

249. Respiratory isolation cells?

10 in Carrizales Rucker

250. On page 19, at bottom of page, it asks if the proposer is willing to negotiate pre-booking medical services. Please explain.

If a medical clearance is necessary, inmate will be sent to a hospital and inmate will be responsible for any bill.

251. Please provide a copy of the Jail's emergency disaster plan/policy.

Jail Standard – see attached

252. Is the proposer responsible for the cost of admissions related to hemodialysis treatments (i.e. shunt placements)?

*Page 23 in the RFP states "Proposers are not responsible for hemodialysis costs.
For Indigent Patients Vendor should be responsible for Bills*

253. Please explain the requirement for Medical Assessment as described on page 33 and the health evaluation as described on page 47, item 22. They appear to be the same request with difference requirements in each.

Each form serves a different purpose during inmate transfer.

254. How many pregnancies in a given year?

Cameron County has about 12 pregnancies per year.

255. Are Medical Assessments required to be performed within a certain period of time (such as 14 days)? If so, how many are typically performed each month, or how many newly booked inmates typically remain in custody beyond 14 days?

Medical assessments are regularly performed during the booking process for incoming inmates at the Nurse's Station within the booking area. The assessments are usually done within 12 hours of arrival and booking depending on the number of inmates coming into the jail. On rare occasion, the numbers may cause the medical assessments to be delayed for a short time.

256. Are plans to pursue accreditation are being considered?

Not by Cameron County

257. Please provide information about your de-tox protocol? Does the facility have a methadone program?

Protocol previously provided – we do not accept methadone.

258. Does the agency charge inmates for health care such as Sick Call and prescriptions?

YES

259. Is termination of pregnancy performed?

NO

260. Are there any areas available for storage of inactive medical records at the facilities?

In Infirmary

261. What is the average time for a background clearance to be completed?

3 days

262. Do the inmate housing areas have a private area for medical services to be performed?

NO

263. Can food services provide renal or other critical disease specific diets?

YES

264. Who currently performs the receiving screening - Correctional Officers, RNs, LVNs, or

other employees?

RNs & LVNs

265. Where does Sick Call occur - in the medical unit, the housing units, or another location (please specify)?

in the Medical Unit ONLY

266. How do inmates access Sick Call?

upon receipt of sick call request

267. What is the current process for medical grievances?

given to RN & forwarded to Lieutenant

268. Are there any special programs that you would like us to initiate or continue?

up to Vendor

269. Is hospice used?

NO

270. Where do diabetics receive their insulin?

Infirmery

271. Can a person be held at the facility without being officially booked? If so, what is the maximum number of hours?

NO

272. Who is financially responsible for medical care when a prisoner is taken directly to the hospital prior to booking?

INMATE IS RESPONSIBLE

273. Exhibit 1: Are any current medical staff members unionized?

NO

274. Please clarify p. 42-43 Item IV (#5 and #9): Continuity of Care. For SMI's (Severely MI) from the state system admitted to the jail, is it the intent of the county for the vendor to be responsible for all related cost for Fitness or Restoration for Fitness?

YES

275. Are there any state regulatory or accrediting bodies involved?

YES - Texas Commission on Jail Standards

276. How quickly are physician referrals sent off-site? Over the past 12 months, how many inmates have been referred to off-site physicians/providers?

For non-emergency patients, as soon as they can be arranged. For emergencies, ASAP by ambulance to nearest ER.

280. What do state laws dictate regarding supervision? For example, can an LPN/LVN work independently?

All nurses work under Dr.'s license and under his policies and protocols. Any questions are referred to RN Infirmery Administrator and then on to Jail Physician if needed.

NO