

## Executive Summary Form

### **Agenda Number: HLT 3979**

#### Recommendation:

Approval of IGA #YH16-0028-12 between Cochise County and AHCCCS for the suspension of AHCCCS eligibility for jail inmates, which extends the current agreement (in effect since 2012).

#### Background:

When an AHCCCS member is jailed, that member's AHCCCS coverage is automatically terminated. Since 2007, Cochise County has had an IGA with AHCCCS that allows the (re)enrollment of AHCCCS-eligible inmates if they are admitted to a hospital as inpatients. Since its inception, that arrangement has saved the county well over \$100,000 in medical expenses.

Under the terms of this suspension IGA, inmates' AHCCCS coverage is not terminated upon booking into the jail, but instead merely suspended. This allows AHCCCS coverage to be reinstated immediately upon the inmate's release, affording no gap in coverage and prompt access to medical services. This is a clear benefit to both the inmate and the community at large as it eases the post-incarceration transition.

The contract shall remain in effect until terminated by either party with thirty days written notice.

#### Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:

No direct impact on Cochise County revenues or expenses; however, it likely reduces recidivism and other indirect social costs.

#### Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up:

Your approval is respectfully requested.

#### Impact of Not Approving:

Not approving this IGA increases the chance of newly released inmates not having prompt access to necessary medical care in the community.