

Executive Summary Form

HLT 3980

Recommendation:

Approval of IGA YH16-0018-13 between Cochise County and AHCCCS for detention inmate inpatient medical care.

Background:

Over the past eleven years through the implementation of agreements with AHCCCS, Cochise County has tapped federal Medicaid dollars to help pay for certain eligible inmate inpatient medical treatments. There are no material financial or operational changes from the existing IGA. This contract will be effective for five years and may be extended by mutual written consent. It may also be terminated by either party with thirty days written notice.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources:

This IGA has been an unqualified success at reducing county expenses because it enables the county to tap federal Medicaid funds for approximately two-thirds of eligible inpatient medical bills. Since the inception of the contract, the county has saved over one hundred thousand dollars in inmate medical costs. Even though savings to the county are contingent mostly on the volume of eligible inpatient medical visits (relatively infrequent occurrences), the potential large dollar impact of even one such event makes this IGA very valuable. The administrative burden of this program is modest and ably managed by existing jail medical staff. Detention medical management has confirmed the county's ability to meet the terms and conditions of the new addendum.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up:

Your approval is respectfully requested.

Impact of Not Approving:

Not approving the amendment and allowing the contract to lapse could materially boost detainee medical expenses paid by the county general fund.