



# Memorandum

**To:** Livingston County Board of Commissioners

**From:** Lt. Tarneseia Pringle

**Date:** February 20, 2024

**Re:** Resolution Authorizing Livingston County Sheriff's Office to renew a 2-year contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan for Inmate Offsite Medical

Attached for your consideration and approval is a resolution authorizing the Sheriff's Office to continue the contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) for inmate offsite medical for a term of two (2) years. This contract discounts offsite medical bills that the Sheriff's Office incurs for inmate doctor or hospital visits. BCBSM provides an ID enrollment number for an inmate when they are scheduled to be sent offsite. This number would qualify the inmate for the BCBSM discount if the provider is a member in the BCBSM network. This discount would also apply to prescription drugs, offsite dental, vision, hearing, and pre-booking in custody medical clearances. There are 33,000 doctors and 152 hospitals that are members of the BCBSM network, which includes the hospitals we currently use.

Continuing this contract with BCBSM should result in a discount of 50% to 73% and the county would be charged a 13% administrative fee. If the inmate is admitted or considered inpatient and Medicaid is not applicable, the hospital would require an additional administrative fee of 9.5%. BCBSM assigns the county a service representative that works with the hospital to attempt to get inpatient inmates set up with Medicaid. In 2023, BCBSM processed 2880 claims for the Sheriff's Office totaling \$1,347,565.73. After discounts, the Sheriff's Office was responsible for \$280,653.48, a savings of \$1,066,912.25.

BCBSM invoices the Sheriff's Office monthly for all claims processed in that month as well as the corresponding administrative fee. A detailed claims report accompanies the monthly invoice. Currently, the Michigan Department of Corrections and 41 Michigan County Jails are all under contract with BCBSM.

We are asking the board for approval to allow the Livingston County Sheriff's Office to renew a Two-year contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to process inmate medical claims. This agreement will be from April 1, 2024, thru March 31, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

LT. Tarneseia Pringle

Jail Administrator