

Okaloosa County News Release

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Okaloosa County Corrections Receives 2015 Health Care Accreditation *Meeting Standards for Health Services in Jails Since 2005*

The Okaloosa County Department of Corrections has successfully earned accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC). NCCHC Accreditation is a voluntary program established to further the quality of health care in jails, prisons and juvenile facilities. . “Providing meaningful healthcare is a challenge under the best of circumstances. Accreditation validates the good work done by our contractors and employees, ensuring the health and safety of hundreds of inmates in the very challenging conditions of a correctional facility every day. Ensuring quality healthcare for inmates reduces overall expense to the taxpayers of Okaloosa County. The workers of our County jail and Corizon Health Care are to be commended.” stated Chairman Nathan Boyles, Okaloosa County Commission.

“With the help of Corizon Health Inc., and their capable staff, we have maintained accreditation since 2005, demonstrating 100 percent compliance with 38 essential standards and 26 important standards,” stated Chief Correctional Officer Paul Lawson. Representing a consortium of major national organizations in the fields of medicine, law and corrections, the NCCHC has developed an extensive set of standards for detention facilities ensuring those achieving accreditation provide the highest quality and most efficient health care programs. Standards cover nine general areas:

Governance and administration

Safety

Personnel and training

Health care services and support

Inmate care and treatment

Health promotion

Special needs and services

Health Records

Medical-legal issues

Corizon Health, Inc. is under contract with the Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners to provide 24-hour-a-day comprehensive dental, medical and mental health services to the approximately 650 inmates housed in the County’s Correctional facility.

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Photo Caption (L-R): Okaloosa County Corrections and Corizon Health Care employees were recognized by the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners for its re-accreditation by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. Chief Correctional Officer Paul Lawson, Corizon Mental Health Counselor Michaelle Lacon-Frelix, Health Services Administrator Susan Priddy, Director of Nursing Stephanie Davis, Corizon Records Custodian Madeline Ray, Corizon Nurse Stephanie Hughes, Corizon Administrative Assistant Sheree Seymour, Corizon Social Worker Sandra Hoffa, Captain Joe Foley, and County Administrator John Hofstad.