

Okaloosa County News Release

Photo Cutline: County Administrator Jim Curry (r) recognizes Larry Caskey and Paul Lawson, Department of Corrections and center, Tamara Taylor, Prison Health Services.

Okaloosa County Corrections Receives Health Care Accreditation for 4 Consecutive Years

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. “County inmate care has its own set of challenges in healthcare and accreditation is not easy to achieve – with the help of Prison Health Services, we’ve managed to operate a well- managed, accredited medical section in our correctional facility, since 2004,” stated Okaloosa County Department of Corrections Director Larry Caskey. “Furthermore, adhering to these accreditation standards helps protect the county from frivolous litigation from inmates who might allege substandard treatment while incarcerated that could result in large settlement costs.”

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 accreditations provide only the highest quality and most efficient health care programs.

Prison Health Services of Brentwood, Tennessee 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 750 inmates housed in the county’s correction facility.

###