

# Correctional Health Services

## Opening of Bear 3: Ensuring Operational Safety

Funding for healthcare staffing to support opening of Bear 3 housing unit at Utah State Correctional Facility

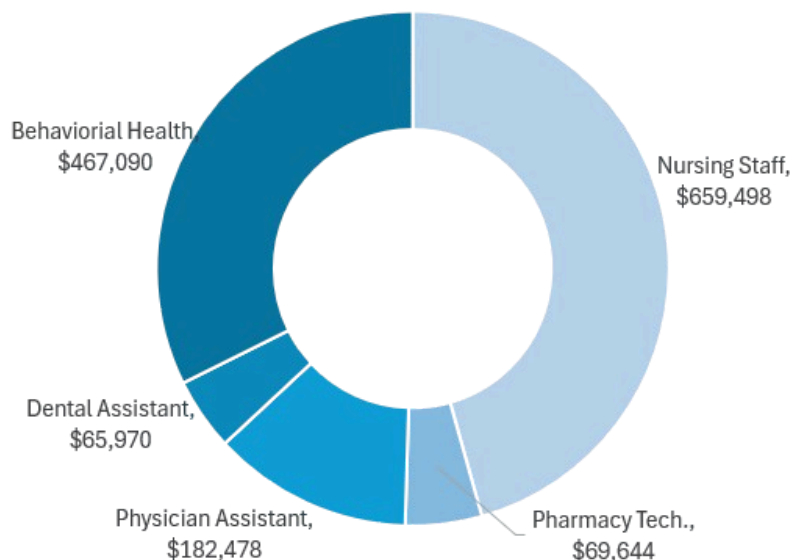
**\$1,500,000**

One-time FY27 General Fund

## Funding healthcare for prison growth

- Nearly \$1.5 million is required to support **essential clinical service delivery** during the first phase of the opening of Bear 3
  - Medical, dental, mental health
  - Medication delivery
  - Emergency response
- Cost estimates are based on approximately **50% clinical operational capacity**, reflecting a gradual, safety-focused ramp-up of services
- This funding supports baseline clinical readiness and continuity of care only – **does not include** expanded operational expenses or off-site medical costs

Cost Distribution



## Lessons Learned

When the Bear 2 unit opened in November 2023, CHS had very limited time to plan staffing and manage issues such as on-site nursing and medication transfers.

Without hesitation, the staff at USCF, as well as the Gunnison prison, stepped up. Shifts were covered, medications moved, records updated.

On opening day, CHS was ready to provide healthcare, but the costs pushed CHS into a budget deficit. This funding will help CHS cover the costs when – not if – Bear 3 opens.