Charlton County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
Commissioners Conference Room
68 Kingsland Drive, Suite B
Folkston, GA 31537
Thursday, November 20, 2025
6:00 PM

11/20/2025 - Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Present was Commissioner Jesse Crews, Chairwoman Alphya Benefield, Vice Chairman Luke Gowen, Commissioner Drew Jones, Commissioner James Everett, County Attorney John Adams, Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Harden, and County Clerk Madeline Nettles.

All guests are recorded hereafter.

Invocation and Pledge to the Flag

The invocation was led by Chairwoman Benefield.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Everett made a motion to Approve the Agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Gowen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes

1. Motion to adopt the November 6th, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

   Vice Chairman Gowen made a motion to Approve The Minutes as Presented. Commissioner Crews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations

Public Hearings

Petitions

Purchasing Items

Grants and SPLOST Project

Agreements

2. Motion to Approve the Execution of the 2025 Indigent Services Agreement

   Commissioner Jones made a motion to Approve the Execution of the 2025 Indigent Services Agreement. Commissioner Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances

Resolutions

Miscellaneous

3. Motion to Approve the October 2025 Financial Report

   Vice Chairman Gowen made a motion to Approve October 2025 Financial Report. Commissioner Crews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Receive October 2025 Wellness Report

   No questions were asked or comments made.

5. Motion to Adopt the Millage Rate

   Director Harden explained the levy and stated that the county has completed all requirements, including advertisements. Both the county and the school board both went with the rollback rate.

   Commissioner Jones made a motion to Approve the Millage Rate as presented . Vice Chairman Gowen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Public Comments are limited to 3 minutes.

Gary Tippins of the Board of Assessors and the contract for the GA Bend Fire Station was present. Mr. Tippins provided an update of work completed and upcoming work to be completed on the fire station. Mr. Tippins believes by the middle of December, the station will have sheet rock installed.
Mr. Tippins talked about the new GMASS contract, which will renew for 3 years and will remove the additional services for personal property and deeds. Mr. Tippins has been talking to Kristi Reese with GMASS about these services.

Ronald Williams of Camp Pickney Drive was present. Mr. Williams stated that there is a "toxic situation" that is happening in Camp Pickney, regarding a situation with several dogs that have been moved to the community. Mr. Williams alleges that the dogs have chased his wife, are causing excessive dog waste, and are being a nuisance. Mr. Williams alleges that there are roughly 20 dogs living on the property. Mr. Williams stated that both his property and this other property have a large potential for flooding, which would cause ground pollution and water pollution. Mr. Williams alleges that the property owners are spreading lime to limit the smell, but it is not effective. Mr. Williams alleges that the owners are not controlling their animals. Commissioner Gowen asked Mr. Williams if he was attacked. Mr. Williams stated that he and his wife have been chased, but the dogs have not bitten anyone yet.

Sheriff Phillips addressed Mr. Williams' comments. Sheriff Phillips stated that he will be taking action by Wednesday. Sheriff Phillips stated that he has not had the personnel, due to various absences, to address the situation. Sheriff Phillips apologized to the Board and Mr. Williams for allowing the situation to go unaddressed. County Attorney Adams asked if the Health Department had been contacted. Sheriff Phillips stated that they have not, yet, but he intends to contact them and the Department of Agriculture.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioners' comments were heard prior to entering executive session.

Commissioner Everett wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner Jones seconded the well wishes.

Commissioner Jones cautioned everyone about burning due to how dry it is. Commissioner Jones asked the newspaper to put something out warning people about the dryness. Commissioner Jones asked Chief Lewis to comment. Chief Lewis confirmed Commissioner Jones statements, furthering cautioning citizens about burning.

Commissioner Gowen thanked Joel Shivar, Director of Parks and Recreation for another successful season. Director Shivar has roughly 130 kids active and participating in the program.

Director Shivar thanked everyone for their prayers for Mrs. Connie Bass, Manager of the Senior Center. Mrs. Bass was recently cleared and will be returning back to work soon.

Commissioner Jones asked for an update about the Meals on Wheels program, which was affected by the Government Shutdown. South Georgia Regional Commission was able to use a separate fund to cover the costs, so there was no pause in services.

Chairwoman Benefield said Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays to everyone, after thanking them for their presence and their role in the county.

County Attorney's Action Items

No comments.

6. Motion to Enter Executive Session to Discuss Personnel and Possible Litigation

   Vice Chairman Gowen made a motion to Enter Executive Session to Discuss Personnel and Possible Litigation. Commissioner Crews seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

   Chairwoman Benefield, Commissioner Crews, Commissioner Everett, Commissioner Gowen, Commissioner Jones, County Attorney Adams, Director Harden, and County Clerk Nettles entered executive session at 6:23 PM.

   Chairwoman Benefield, Commissioner Crews, Commissioner Everett, Commissioner Gowen, Commissioner Jones, County Attorney Adams, Director Harden and County Clerk Nettles exited at: 7:03 PM

   No action was taken.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on December 4th, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Board of Commissioners meeting room.

Adjourn

Vice Chairman Gowen made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Everett seconded the motion. The motion Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

____
Alphya Benefield, Chairman

____
Madeline Nettles, County Clerk

WAYCROSS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Georgia Public Defender Council

208 S. Peterson Ave.
Suite 8, Rm. 220
Douglas, GA 31533
Phone: (912) 383-8775
Fax: (912) 389-0913

Bradley D. Bennett
Patrick S. Ferris
Christy N. Metts

JOSHUA A. LARKEY
Circuit Public Defender

T. Craig Head
Chief Asst. Public Defender

Sonia Meadows
Chief Administrative Assistant

605-D Church Street
Waycross, GA 31501
Phone: (912) 287-4360
Fax: (912) 287-4362

Sierra R. Childers
Sarah J. Lewis
Mark ("A.J.") Smart

October 29, 2025

Charlton County Commission Office
Attn: Mrs. Alphya Benefield, Chairwoman
68 Kingsland Drive, Suite B
Folkston, GA 31537-2872

Re: 2025 Indigent Services Agreement

Dear Mr. Benefield,

Enclosed herewith please find a copy of our CY2026 Budget and the Indigent Defense Agreement for next year. The 2026 total circuit budget for the counties is $959,931.76, which represents a 7.5% increase over last year's budget. As you know, we make every attempt to be responsible in our management of all monies entrusted to us, but the requested increase is absolutely necessary for employee retention and to cover increased costs in recent years. For some perspective, this request means that our budget will have risen by 18.9% since 2020. Over that same period, inflation has been approximately 29%, so even with the requested increase we are considerably lower than the rate of inflation.

Charlton County's percentage of the total caseload has decreased from 6.1% last year to 4.75% this year. That decrease means that even with our requested budget increase, Charlton County's annual personnel cost **will decrease from $49,124.90 last year to $41,121.97 this year**. The quarterly personnel cost will likewise decrease from $12,281.23 last year to $10,280.49 this year. Charlton County's total operating cost for 2026 is slightly higher than last year's, increasing from $8,229.80 to $8,5420, and the monthly operating cost will likewise increase slightly to $2,135.50 this year.

I did want to draw special attention to the fact that I have included a line item in this year's budget for a county supplement for myself. The supplement is included in the above figures, and is not in addition to them. Also, as with the rest of our personnel budget, this supplement is divided among the 6 counties. I am currently the only judicial officer in the circuit that does not receive a county supplement, and the amount I have requested is the same as that provided to the District Attorney. The amount is also consistent with, or in many cases lower than, supplements received by Circuit Public Defenders in similar judicial circuits, so I believe it is appropriate.

If you would like to meet and discuss the agreement and contract, please contact me. Alternatively, if my presence is not required, please present these enclosures to your commission and return the executed agreement to me at your earliest convenience. I will return a fully executed copy to you once it has been signed by our agency executive director in Atlanta.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Joshua A. Larkey, Circuit Public Defender

GEORGIA INDIGENT DEFENSE SERVICES AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this ___________ day of _____________ 2025, among the Georgia Public Defender Council (herein referred to as " GPDC"), the Circuit Public Defender Office of the Waycross Judicial Circuit (herein referred to as "the Public Defender Office"), and the governing authority of Charlton County, a body politic and a subdivision of the State of Georgia (herein referred to as "the County"). This agreement is effective January 1, 2026.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, GPDC, the Public Defender Office, and the County enter into this agreement to implement the provisions of the Georgia Indigent Defense act of 2003, as amended; and

WHEREAS, GPDC is existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other entities; and

WHEREAS, the Public Defender Office is existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other entitles; and

WHEREAS, GPDC is the fiscal officer for the Public Defender Office; and

WHEREAS, the County is a body politic, existing and operating under the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia with full power to enter into contracts and agreements with other political entities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the parties to this agreement to provide for the operation of an indigent defense system to assure that adequate and effective legal representation is provided, independent of political considerations of private interests, to indigent defendants in criminal cases consistent with the standards adopted by GPDC. This system and this agreement include the following:

(1) The provision by the Public Defender Office of the statutorily required services to the County;

(2) The payment of additional personnel and services by the County;

(3) The provision by the County of its pro rata share of the costs of appropriate offices, utilities, telephone expenses, materials, and supplies as may be necessary to equip, maintain, and furnish the office or offices of the circuit public defender in an orderly and efficient manner;

(4) Optional provisions; and

(5) The provision for other matters necessary to carry out this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises contained in the agreement and for Ten Dollars ($10) and other good and valuable consideration, **IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS**:

ARTICLE 1

STATUTORY PERSONNEL

Section 1.01 Statutory Staffing. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide for the Waycross Judicial Circuit full-time staff for a circuit public defender office or offices consisting of a circuit public defender; an assistant public defender for each superior court judge authorized for the circuit, excluding the chief judge and senior judges; an investigator; and 2 additional persons to perform administrative, clerical or paraprofessional services.

Section 1.02 Statutory Services. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide representation to indigent defendants in the following cases:

(1) Cases prosecuted in the Superior Court of Charlton County under the laws of the State of Georgia in which there is a possibility that a sentence of imprisonment or probation or suspension of sentence of imprisonment may be adjudged;

(2) Hearings in the Superior Court of Charlton County on a revocation of probation;

(3) Cases prosecuted in the Juvenile Court of Charlton County in which a child may face a disposition in a delinquency case of confinement, commitment or probation; and

(4) Direct appeals from a decision in cases described in (1), (2), and (3) above.

Section 1.03 Conflicts. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide for legal representation by an attorney who is not an employee of the Public Defender Office in cases described in Section 1.02 in which the Public Defender Office has a conflict of interest.

ARTICLE 2

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AND SERVICES

Section 2.01 Additional personnel and services. The Public Defender Office agrees to provide and the County agrees to pay for the services and personnel described in Attachment A. The parties agree to the terms in Attachment A. Attachment A is incorporated into this agreement by reference. The amount to be paid includes a 5% administrative services fee. This fee is determined by the total amount for all of the budgeted positions. Upon expiration or termination of the agreement, any unused portion of the administrative services fee shall be refunded to the County by GPDC; unused portion means those fees paid in association with any position not filled in full but for which the County has provided funding. Any changes to Attachment A shall be made in accordance with Section 5.06 of this agreement. Any additional personnel employed by the Public Defender Office pursuant to this section are full-time state paid employees of the Public Defender Office in the unclassified service of the State Merit System of Personnel Administration with all the benefits provided by law to employees in the unclassified service. The parties agree that the employment of additional personnel employed by the Public Defender Office pursuant to this section may be terminated by the Public Defender Office if the County does not pay for the cost of these personnel in advance in accordance with this agreement.

ARTICLE 3

PROVISION BY THE COUNTY OF ITS PRO RATA SHARE OF THE COSTS OF APPROPRIATE OFFICES, UTILITIES, TELEPHONE EXPENSES, MATERIALS, AND SUPPLIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO EQUIP, MAINTAIN, AND FURNISH THE OFFICE OR OFFICES OF THE CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER.

Section 3.01 Office expenses. The County agrees to pay its pro rata share of the budget provided in Attachment B, which is the budget for appropriate offices, utilities, telephone expenses, materials, and supplies to equip, maintain, and furnish the office or offices of the Public Defender Office plus a 5% administration fee to GPDC. The 5% administration fee is determined by the total amount of the County's pro rata share of the operating expenses and is separate from the 5% administrative services fee described Section 2.01 of this agreement. Upon expiration or termination of the agreement, any unused portion of the administrative fee shall be refunded to the County by GPDC; unused portion means those fees paid in association with operating costs not incurred but for which the County has provided funds. Attachment B is incorporated into this agreement by reference. The County agrees to pay in quarterly installments to GPDC. The initial installment shall be due on or before December 15, 2025, or as soon as possible after the execution of this agreement, whichever comes first. Thereafter the County agrees to forward each subsequent quarterly payment to GPDC at the start of each quarter, specifically, the 15th day of the preceding month before a fiscal quarter is to begin. Thus, the County will forward the funds by March 15, June 15, and September 15, 2026.

Section 3.02 Administration of office expenses. GPDC agrees to be the fiscal agent for the administration of office expenses. GPDC will process and mail checks in payment of invoices approved by the Circuit Public Defender, drawn on those County funds and made payable to the vendors at the addresses shown on the invoices. "Payment" for purposes of this agreement means preparation of a check by GPDC in its normal course and procedure and its mailing in a properly addressed envelope with sufficient postage by deposit into the United States mail.

Section 3.03 Procedure for payment. The County or the Public Defender Office, or both, will make purchases and enter into financial obligations for office expenses. Upon approval by the Circuit Public Defender, an invoice will be transmitted to GPDC. GPDC shall pay the amount stated on the invoice with funds provided by the County for the purpose of paying for such expenses. The payment of the office expenses under this agreement will be paid only out of County funds supplied to GPDC for the sole purpose of paying for office expenses.

Section 3.04 Responsibility. The County will deliver funds to GPDC at its own risk until receipt is acknowledged by GPDC. GPDC's sole duty with regard to County funds, other than their proper expenditure, will be their deposit into a state depository demand account. Interest, if any, will accrue to the general fund of the state treasury. GPDC bears responsibility for properly remitting payment for invoices approved by the Circuit Public Defender provided sufficient funds from the County exist. The County bears the legal responsibility for any claim that arises from GPDC's inability to remit payment due to insufficient funds for said office expenses.

Section 3.05 Limitation of liability. Under no circumstances shall GPDC be obligated to pay for the office expenses out of funds other than those provided by the County for that purpose. Without limiting the foregoing, GPDC is not obligated to pay for office expenses out of state funds or other funds available to GPDC. GPDC undertakes only to receive funds from the County and to process and mail checks in payment of invoices approved by the Circuit Public Defender. GPDC shall have no further legal obligation in any circumstance or event beyond the amount of funds received from the County for the purpose of paying for office expenses under this agreement. In the event that GPDC fails to make payment on an invoice that has been properly processed and county funds are available, the exclusive remedy for any tort claim against GPDC will be the Georgia Tort Claims Act.

Section 3.06 Taxes. The County will pay all taxes lawfully imposed upon it with respect to the office expenses. GPDC makes no representation whatsoever as to the liability or exemption from liability of the County to any tax imposed by any governmental entity.

ARTICLE 4

OPTIONAL PROVISIONS

(RESERVED)

ARTICLE 5

MISCELLANEOUS

Section 5.01 Term. The term of this agreement is twelve (12) months beginning January 1, 2026, and ending December 31, 2026.

Section 5.02 Maintenance of effort. The County agrees that it will continue to fund indigent defense for the term of this agreement, at a minimum, at the level of its most recent budgeted level of funding (the current fiscal year or the planned budget for the next fiscal year if that budget has already been developed) for indigent defense and as part of this support each county agrees to provide the space, equipment and operating expenses necessary to effectively operate the circuit public defender office.

Section 5.03 Severability. Any section, subsection, paragraph, term, condition, provision or other part (hereinafter collectively referred to as "part") of this agreement that is judged, held, found, or declared to be voidable, void, invalid, illegal or otherwise not fully enforceable shall not affect any other part of this agreement, and the remainder of this agreement shall continue to be of full force and effect. Any agreement of the parties to amend, modify, eliminate, or otherwise change any part of this agreement shall not affect any other part of this agreement, and the remainder of this agreement shall continue to be of full force and effect.

Section 5.04 Cooperation, dispute resolution and jurisdiction. (a) The Public Defender Office and the County acknowledge that this agreement may need to be revised periodically to address new or unforeseen matters.

(b) Each party to this agreement agrees to cooperate with the other party to effectuate and carry out the intent of this agreement.

(c) This agreement, and the rights and obligations of the parties, are governed by, and subject to and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia. The parties acknowledge and agree that by law, the exclusive jurisdiction for contract actions against the state, departments and agencies of the state, and state authorities is the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia. The Parties further acknowledge that the Fulton Superior Court has a Court sponsored Arbitration and Mediation Program in which the Parties agree to fully participate.

Section 5.05 Notice. A notice to a party to this agreement shall be made in writing and shall be delivered by first class mail or personally to the person and at the address indicated below:

Circuit Public Defender Office of Waycross Judicial Circuit:

Joshua A. Larkey
Circuit Public Defender
605-D Church St.
Waycross, GA 31501

Governing Authority of Charlton County:

Alphya Benefield, Chairwoman
Charlton County Commission
68 Kingsland Dr., Suite B
Folkston, GA 31537

Georgia Public Defender Council:

Omotayo B. Alli
270 Washington Street SW
Suite 6079
Atlanta, GA 30334

Section 5.06 Agreement modification. Thig agreement, including all attachments hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this agreement and may be altered or amended only by a subsequent written agreement of equal dignity; provided, however, that the parties' representatives identified in Section 5.05 may agree in writing by an exchange of letters or emails prior to the budget revision becoming effective to budget revisions which do not increase or decrease the total dollar value of the agreement. This agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations and communications of whatever type, whether written or oral, between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter of this agreement. No modifications may be made without prior notice to and approval from all the parties to this agreement.

Section 5.07 Termination. (a) Due to non-availability of funds. In the event that either of the sources of reimbursement for services under this agreement (appropriations from the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, or appropriations from the governing authority of the County) is reduced during the term of this agreement, the Public Defender Office may make financial and other adjustments to this agreement and notify the County accordingly. An adjustment may be an agreement amendment or may be the termination of the agreement. The certification by the director of the Georgia Public Defender Council of the occurrence of reduction in State funds is conclusive. The certification of the occurrence of the reduction in county funds by the person named in Section 5.05 by the County to receive notices is conclusive. The County shall promptly notify the Public Defender Office in writing of the non-existence or insufficiency of funds and the date of termination. The Public Defender Office shall then immediately cease providing the services required hereunder except for any necessary winding down and transition services required under Section 5.08. In lieu of terminating this agreement, the County and the Public Defender Office may make financial and other adjustments to this agreement by amending it pursuant to Section 5.06.

(b) **For cause**. This agreement may be terminated for cause, in whole or part, at any time by either party for failure by the other party to substantially perform any of its duties under this agreement. "Cause" means a breach or default of any material obligation hereunder which default is incapable of cure, or which, being capable of cure, has not been cured within 30 days after receipt of notice of such default (or such additional cure period as the non-defaulting party may authorize). Should a party exercise its right to terminate this agreement under this subsection, the termination shall be accomplished in writing and specify the reason and the termination date. In the event of termination under this subsection the Public Defender Office shall submit a final agreement expenditure report containing all charges incurred through and including the termination date to the County no later than 30 days after the effective date of written notice of termination and the County shall pay the amount due within 15 days of the receipt of the final agreement expenditure report. Upon termination of this agreement, the Public Defender Office shall not incur any new obligations after the effective date of the termination, except as required under Section 5.08. The above remedies contained in this subsection are in addition to any other remedies provided by law or the terms of this agreement.

(c) **For Convenience**. This agreement may be cancelled or terminated by either of the parties without cause; however, the party seeking to terminate or cancel this agreement shall give written notice of its intention to do so to the other party at least 60 days prior to the effective date of cancellation or termination.

(d) **Post-termination obligations**. After termination of this agreement pursuant to this Section, the Public Defender Office and the County agree to comply with the provisions of Section 5.08.

Section 5.08 Cooperation in transition of services. (a) At the beginning of the agreement. The County agrees upon the beginning of this agreement to cooperate as requested by the Public Defender Office to effectuate the smooth and reasonable transition of services for existing clients, if applicable. This includes but is not limited to the payment for the continuation of representation by current counsel where appropriate or required by law, court rule or the State Bar of Georgia ethical standards or the facilitation of the timely transfer to the Public Defender Office of the client records.

(b) **During or at the end of the agreement**. The Public Defender Office agrees upon termination or expiration of this agreement, in whole or in part, for any reason to cooperate as requested by the County to effectuate the smooth and reasonable transition of services for existing clients. This includes but is not limited to the continuation of representation by Public Defender Office where appropriate or required by law, court rule or the State Bar of Georgia ethical standards or the facilitation of the timely transfer to the County of the client records. The County shall compensate the Public Defender for all post-termination post-expiration services under this subsection. The Public Defender Office shall submit a monthly expenditure report containing all charges incurred during the preceding month on or before the 5th day of each month. The County shall pay the amount due within 15 days of the receipt of the monthly expenditure report. This subsection survives the termination or expiration of the agreement.

(c) **Statutory responsibility continuation**. The Public Defender Office and the County acknowledge that both have responsibilities for indigent defense costs under the Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003, as amended and that the termination or expiration of this agreement does not relieve either party of their responsibility under the law.

Section 5.09 Advance of Funds. The parties agree that advances of funds cannot remain outstanding following agreement termination or expiration and will be reclaimed. The parties agree that upon termination of this agreement, for any reason, all unexpended and unobligated funds held by the parties revert to the party entitled to the funds. The parties agree to reconcile expenditures against advances of funds within 30 days of termination of this agreement.

Section 5.10 Rollover of Funds. The County acknowledges that state agencies have a fiscal year from July 1 to June 30. The County agrees to authorize the Georgia Public Defender Council to roll over remaining county funds from the end of one fiscal year to the start of the new fiscal year.

Section 5.11 Time. Time is of the essence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have each here unto affixed their signatures the day and year first written above.

CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE

WAYCROSS JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

By: ______________________

Joshua A. Larkey, Circuit Public Defender

ATTEST:

Sonia Meadows (SEAL)

SONIA MEADOWS NOTARY PUBLIC Exp. April 16, 2027 WARE COUNTY, GA

CHARLTON COUNTY

By: ______________________

Alphya Benefield, Chairwoman
Charlton Co. Commission

ATTEST:

______________________ (SEAL)

GEORGIA PUBLIC DEFENDER COUNCIL

By: ______________________

Omotayo B. Alli, Director

ATTEST:

______________________ (SEAL)

Waycross Judicial Circuit
CHARLTON COUNTY
Personnel Expenses
January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026

The County agrees to pay the Public Defender Office **$41,121.97** in 4 quarterly installments of **$10,280.49**. Installments are due to the Georgia Public Defender Council (GPDC) on the 15th of the preceding quarter beginning on December 15, 2026. Any such scheduled payment that has not been timely made as of the date of the execution of this Agreement shall be deemed immediately due and payable.

The Public Defender Office agrees to use these funds for the purpose of paying the salary and benefits for county public defenders and assistants (Article 2).

Payment for the salaries, benefits and administrative costs shall be made by the County in advance of the payment of the salaries by the Public Defender Office. These additional personnel will provide legal representation to indigent defendants in Superior Courts and delinquency proceedings in Juvenile Courts.

The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that the Circuit Public Defender may reallocate funds from one category of employee to another (e. g. any administrative staff funds remaining after that position has been filled may be used toward attorney salaries) .Under no circumstance: however, shall the total sum of salaries, benefits, and administrative fees exceed the total reflected above or the County's portion thereof as reflected above.

The Circuit Public Defender, at his discretion, may authorize GPDC to return to the County any unused monies forwarded pursuant to this contract that have been deposited with GPDC for ninety (90) days or more.

ATTACHMENT "A"

Waycross Judicial Circuit
CHARLTON COUNTY
Operating Expenses
January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026

The County agrees to pay the Public Defender Office **$8,542.00** in 4 quarterly installments of **$2,135.50**. Installments are due to the Georgia Public Defender Council (GPDC) on the 15th of the preceding quarter beginning on December 15, 2026. Any such scheduled payment that has not been timely made as of the date of the execution of this Agreement shall be deemed immediately due and payable.

The Public Defender Office agrees to use these funds for the purpose of paying the expenditures necessary to equip, maintain, and furnish the Public Defender Office (Article 3).

The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that the Circuit Public Defender may reallocate funds from one category of expenditures to another (e. g.: any funds designated for purchase of a desk that are not used or fully used may be applied toward the purchase of additional office furnishings.) Under no circumstance, however, shall the total sum of materials/supplies, one-time expenditures, and other expenses (as contemplated by the Circuit Public Defender's proposed budget of which all parties hereto have been made aware) exceed the total reflected sum of administrative expenses reflected above or the County's portion thereof as reflected above.

The Circuit Public Defender, at his discretion, may authorize GPDC to return to the County any unused monies forwarded pursuant to this contract that have been deposited with the GPDC for ninety (90) days or more.

ATTACHMENT "B"

WAYCROSS CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE
JANUARY 1, 2026 - DECEMBER 31, 2026

STATE FUNDED - Public Defender and Assistants

Name	#	Salaries	FICA 7.65% of Salary	Retirement 32.51% of salary	Health Insurance 29.454% of Salary	Unemployment $31 per Position	Total
Chief Public Defender	1	$ 132,473.04	$ 10,134.19	$ 43,066.99	$ 39,018.61	$ 31.00	$ 224,723.82
Assistant Public Defender	4	$ 347,357.52	$ 26,572.85	$ 112,925.93	$ 102,310.68	$ 124.00	$ 589,290.98
TOTAL:	**5**	**$ 479,830.56**	**$ 36,707.04**	**$ 155,992.92**	**$ 141,329.29**	**$ 155.00**	**$ 814,014.81**

STATE FUNDED - Public Defender Administrative

Name	#	Salaries	FICA 7.65% of Salary	Retirement 32.51% of salary	Health Insurance 29.454% of Salary	Unemployment $31 per Position	Total
Administrative Staff	2	$ 90,756.24	$ 6,942.85	$ 29,504.85	$ 26,731.34	$ 62.00	$ 153,997.29
TOTAL:	**2**	**$ 90,756.24**	**$ 6,942.85**	**$ 29,504.85**	**$ 26,731.34**	**$ 62.00**	**$ 153,997.29**

COUNTY FUNDED - Public Defender and Assistants

Name	#	Salaries	FICA 7.65% of Salary	Retirement 32.51% of salary	Health Insurance 29.454% of Salary	Unemployment $31 per Position	Total
Chief Public Defender	1	$ 15,000.00	$ 1,147.50	$ 4,876.50	$ 4,418.10	$ -	$ 25,442.10
Assistant Public Defender	6	$ 361,626.56	$ 27,664.43	$ 117,564.79	$ 106,513.49	$ 124.00	$ 613,493.27
TOTAL:	**7**	**$ 376,626.56**	**$ 28,811.93**	**$ 122,441.29**	**$ 110,931.59**	**$ 124.00**	**$ 638,935.37**

COUNTY FUNDED - Public Defender Administrative

Name	#	Salaries	FICA 7.65% of Salary	Retirement 32.51% of salary	Health Insurance 29.454% of Salary	Unemployment $31 per Position	Total
Administrative Staff	4	$ 109,367.95	$ 8,366.65	$ 35,555.52	$ 32,213.24	$ 62.00	$ 185,565.36
TOTAL:	**4**	**$ 109,367.95**	**$ 8,366.65**	**$ 35,555.52**	**$ 32,213.24**	**$ 62.00**	**$ 185,565.36**

COUNTY FUNDED - Office Expenditures

		Annual	Monthly
Operational Expenditures	*		
Telephone Expense	*	$ 3,000.00	$ 250.00
Office Supplies	*	$ 15,000.00	$ 1,250.00
Postage	*	$ 3,000.00	$ 250.00
Repairs	*	$ 1,620.00	$ 135.00
Reference Books/Law Books	*	$ 5,000.00	$ 416.67
Transcripts	*	$ 3,000.00	$ 250.00
Office Furnishings	*	$ 2,000.00	$ 166.67
Office Equipment	*	$ 4,000.00	$ 333.33
File Cabinets	*	$ 900.00	$ 75.00
Subscriptions	*	$ 1,000.00	$ 83.33
Training/Professional Dues	*	$ 4,600.00	$ 383.33
Car Expenses	*	$ 5,000.00	$ 416.67
Building Expenditures	*		
Space Rental	*	$ 31,600.00	$ 2,633.33
Utilities	*	$ 10,000.00	$ 833.33
TOTAL:	*	**$ 89,720.00**	**$ 7,476.67**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

		State Funded	County Funded
Public Defender and Assistants	*	$ 814,014.81	$ 638,935.37
Public Defender Administrative	*	$ 153,997.29	$ 185,565.36
5% Administrative Fee	*		$ 41,225.04
Office Expenditures	*		$ 89,720.00
5% Administrative Fee	*		$ 4,486.00
TOTAL:	*	**$ 968,012.09**	**$ 959,931.76**

BREAKDOWN BY COUNTY (Personnel)

		Annual	Monthly/Quarterly
Bacon	9.49%	$ 82,157.37	$ 20,539.34
Brantley	12.98%	$ 112,371.20	$ 28,092.80
Charlton	4.75%	$ 41,121.97	$ 10,280.49
Coffee	28.68%	$ 248,290.15	$ 20,690.85
Pierce	15.84%	$ 137,130.96	$ 34,282.74
Ware	28.26%	$ 244,654.10	$ 20,387.84
CIRCUIT WIDE TOTAL:	**100.00%**	**$ 865,725.76**	**$ 134,274.07**

BREAKDOWN BY COUNTY (Operating)

		Annual	Monthly/Quarterly
Bacon	7.69%	$ 7,245.71	$ 1,811.43
Brantley	13.09%	$ 12,329.84	$ 3,082.46
Charlton	9.07%	$ 8,542.00	$ 2,135.50
Coffee	30.54%	$ 28,767.00	$ 2,397.25
Pierce	14.39%	$ 13,559.21	$ 3,389.80
Ware	25.22%	$ 23,762.25	$ 1,980.19
CIRCUIT WIDE TOTAL:	**100.00%**	**$ 94,206.00**	**$ 14,796.63**

BREAKDOWN BY COUNTY (Total)

		Annual	Monthly/Quarterly
Bacon	*	$ 89,403.08	$ 22,350.77
Brantley	*	$ 124,701.04	$ 31,175.26
Charlton	*	$ 49,663.97	$ 12,415.99
Coffee	*	$ 277,057.15	$ 23,088.10
Pierce	*	$ 150,690.17	$ 37,672.54
Ware	*	$ 268,416.35	$ 22,368.03
CIRCUIT WIDE TOTAL:	100.00%	**$ 959,931.76**	**$ 149,070.69**

*Highlighting denotes counties that pay on a quarterly basis

Charlton County Financial Narrative – October 2025

As of October 2025, Charlton County's financial position remains stable with continued fiscal activity across various funds. The overall performance shows a mix of conservative spending, strategic utilization of special-purpose funds, and responsible revenue management.

General Fund

The General Fund began October with a balance of $2,117,870.77 and ended at **$2, 497,047.47**, reflecting a net increase. Revenues totaled $1,247,773.46, offset by $868,596.49 in expenses.

Special-Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Funds

- **2014 SPLOST**: The account showed no revenue and $53,511.02 expenses in the month of October.
- **2020 SPLOST**: Active usage continued with $153,195.90 in expenses. Revenue inflow of $148,662.81 helped cushion the outflow, bringing the balance to **$2,492,300.52**.
- **TSPLOST**: Maintained steady growth with $43,581.05 in revenue against only $30,614.00 in expenses. The ending balance stood at **$1,797,447.39.**

Grants & Projects

This fund remained dynamic, with $12,977,719.00 in revenue and $13,810,145.97 in expenses, resulting in a balance of **$1,644,650.36.**

Emergency Services (EMS) & Related Programs

- **EMS Fund**: The fund increased slightly to **$252,349.86**, with revenue of $38,561.87 cushioning against expenditures of $28,358.79.
- **EMS Education Program**: Saw a slight increase, ending with a stable balance of $25,649.97.
- **911 Emergency Telephone Fund**: Consistently accruing monthly revenue of $13,709.97, the fund now holds **$135,942.05.**

Recreation Fund

The Recreation account saw $3,741.45 in revenue and $11,369.38 in expenses, leading to a stable month-end balance of **$30,688.03.**

Reserves (previously) Assigned and Excess Funds

- **Reserves (previously Assigned Funds Account)** increased by $22,976.79, ending with **$1,222,391.30**, supported by revenues and against $52,045.37 in expenditures.
- **Excess Funds** saw no revenue or expenses in the month of October.

ARPA & Donation Accounts

The **ARPA Account** saw no movement in October, ending with a balance of **$949,237.41.** The **Donation Account** also held steady at **$10,578.77**, with a one-time deposit of $300.00.

Other Notable Accounts

- **Senior Center** received a one-time revenue of $24.00 and no expenditures, bringing the overall balance to **$2,348.19.**
- **Folkston Ice Processing Center** saw an increase in balance, with a revenue of $13,791,344.73 and expenditures of $18,694,906.03, bringing its balance to **$4,904,923.76.**
- **Junior Firefighter Donation Account** maintained static balances with no recent activity.
- **Juvenile Account** saw no movement either.

Conclusion

Charlton County's October 2025 financial report reflects an overall healthy balance of revenue and expenditures. With a net revenue of **$28,357,476.77** across all accounts combatting a net expense of **$33,704,535.36**, the county demonstrates a continued commitment to financial sustainability by carefully utilizing available funds while being mindful of incoming revenue.

Charlton County Bank Account Information

Account Name	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
General Fund										
Old Balance	$783,101.82	$4,308,592.22	$3,840,802.66	$3,824,991.15	$4,332,719.66	$3,785,413.28	$2,901,540.73	$3,126,352.88	$2,715,955.46	$2,117,870.77
Revenue	$5,109,849.65	$596,410.41	$972,545.21	$1,567,411.51	$364,996.24	$380,107.60	$1,297,591.76	$897,875.40	$506,842.62	$1,247,773.46
Expenses	$1,584,359.25	$1,064,199.97	$988,356.72	$1,059,683.00	$912,302.62	$1,263,980.15	$1,072,779.61	$1,308,272.82	$1,104,927.31	$868,596.49
New Balance	$4,308,592.22	$3,840,802.66	$3,824,991.15	$4,332,719.66	$3,785,413.28	$2,901,540.73	$3,126,352.88	$2,715,955.46	$2,117,870.77	$2,497,047.74
Outstanding Checks	$200,565.51	$159,819.08	$358,972.77	$158,225.60	$95,520.74	$31,753.77	$85,950.96	$78,090.72	$54,922.52	$157,582.83
2014 SPLOST										
Old Balance	$515,777.51	$515,777.51	$515,777.51	$514,172.48	$514,172.48	$452,486.31	$452,486.31	$452,486.31	$445,079.31	$445,079.31
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$1,605.03	$0.00	$61,686.17	$0.00	$0.00	$7,407.00	$0.00	$53,511.02
New Balance	$515,777.51	$515,777.51	$514,172.48	$514,172.48	$452,486.31	$452,486.31	$452,486.31	$445,079.31	$445,079.31	$391,568.29
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$7,407.00	$0.00	$53,511.02	$0.00
Drug Education										
Old Balance	$97,182.66	$91,032.29	$89,762.29	$90,070.29	$88,419.83	$87,834.83	$87,552.76	$87,488.09	$85,972.44	$80,271.54
Revenue	$919.00	$0.00	$308.00	$641.00	$0.00	$1,267.28	$528.91	$1,533.50	$0.00	$1,139.96
Expenses	$7,069.37	$1,270.00	$0.00	$2,291.46	$585.00	$1,549.35	$593.58	$3,049.15	$5,700.90	$1,792.41
New Balance	$91,032.29	$89,762.29	$90,070.29	$88,419.83	$87,834.83	$87,552.76	$87,488.09	$85,972.44	$80,271.54	$79,619.09
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$870.00	$0.00	$560.50	$416.94	$5,700.90	$0.00	$424.75
Grants & Projects										
Old Balance	$2,086,550.21	$2,050,237.70	$2,332,564.03	$2,174,534.99	$2,664,668.46	$2,061,064.22	$2,279,778.18	$2,188,005.08	$2,511,101.54	$2,497,077.33
Revenue	$3,522,926.76	$3,878,947.01	$2,650.05	$4,537,500.10	$6,381,443.00	$494,505.00	$3,620,510.93	$547,405.77	$13,936,323.59	$12,977,719.00
Expenses	$3,559,239.27	$3,596,620.68	$160,679.09	$4,047,366.63	$6,985,047.24	$275,791.04	$3,712,284.03	$224,309.31	$13,950,347.80	$13,810,145.97
New Balance	$2,050,237.70	$2,332,564.03	$2,174,534.99	$2,664,668.46	$2,061,064.22	$2,279,778.18	$2,188,005.08	$2,511,101.54	$2,497,077.33	$1,664,650.36
Outstanding Checks	*						$1,338.38	$2,004.29	$15,351.11	$367,588.81
EMS										
Old Balance	$229,257.82	$237,201.25	$229,775.80	$252,668.12	$244,416.31	$237,168.74	$230,139.40	$234,090.80	$254,420.97	$242,146.78
Revenue	$51,640.23	$45,708.54	$61,733.23	$60,785.92	$54,501.08	$44,370.29	$46,548.09	$63,352.10	$35,577.66	$38,561.87
Expenses	$43,696.80	$53,133.99	$38,840.91	$69,037.73	$61,748.65	$51,399.63	$42,596.69	$43,021.93	$47,851.85	$28,358.79
New Balance	$237,201.25	$229,775.80	$252,668.12	$244,416.31	$237,168.74	$230,139.40	$234,090.80	$254,420.97	$242,146.78	$252,349.86
Outstanding Checks	$4,937.55	$2,863.40	$2,168.71	$250.00	$0.00	$281.15	$585.36	$9,180.05	$836.50	$14,383.04
Recreation										
Old Balance	$54,022.89	$60,698.07	$67,716.66	$60,372.50	$61,475.35	$54,135.79	$52,983.21	$53,817.56	$38,994.82	$38,315.96
Revenue	$9,504.87	$14,059.41	$2,111.76	$12,865.80	$5,563.76	$3,383.35	$3,339.75	$5,860.00	$4,338.02	$3,741.45
Expenses	$2,829.69	$7,040.82	$9,455.92	$11,762.95	$12,903.32	$4,535.93	$2,505.40	$20,682.74	$5,016.88	$11,369.38
New Balance	$60,698.07	$67,716.66	$60,372.50	$61,475.35	$54,135.79	$52,983.21	$53,817.56	$38,994.82	$38,315.96	$30,688.03
Outstanding Checks	$3,913.28	$1,707.53	$5,991.00	$10,151.19	$2,844.85	$1,838.29	$19,876.62	$1,772.50	$10,141.77	$2,917.42
TSPLOST										
Old Balance	$1,601,384.52	$1,649,195.27	$1,676,114.36	$1,715,028.32	$1,750,735.61	$1,787,650.57	$1,732,285.79	$1,759,107.27	$1,760,765.22	$1,784,480.34
Revenue	$52,507.69	$41,296.26	$42,561.29	$46,209.16	$44,404.28	$44,871.91	$45,358.66	$44,633.11	$44,533.08	$43,581.05
Expenses	$4,696.94	$14,377.17	$3,647.33	$10,501.87	$7,489.32	$100,236.69	$18,537.18	$42,975.16	$20,817.96	$30,614.00
New Balance	$1,649,195.27	$1,676,114.36	$1,715,028.32	$1,750,735.61	$1,787,650.57	$1,732,285.79	$1,759,107.27	$1,760,765.22	$1,784,480.34	$1,797,447.39
Outstanding Checks	$6,200.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$50.00	$0.00	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$0.00

Charlton County Bank Account Information (cont.)

Account Name	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Donation Account										
Old Balance	$9,400.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77
Revenue	$1,200.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$300.00
Expenses	$322.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,278.77	$10,578.77
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Excess Funds Account										
Old Balance	$61,223.39	$61,223.39	$61,223.39	$61,223.39	$113,556.39	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$52,333.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$14,028.20	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$61,223.39	$61,223.39	$61,223.39	$113,556.39	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19	$99,528.19
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Reserves Account(Previously Assigned Funds)										
Old Balance	$1,701,995.04	$752,075.85	$703,690.67	$977,391.30	$989,711.69	$977,391.30	$987,556.56	$992,288.64	$996,868.07	$1,251,459.88
Revenue	$929.70	$14,359.26	$273,756.52	$12,320.39	$16,527.03	$10,165.26	$4,732.08	$4,579.43	$254,591.81	$22,976.79
Expenses	$950,848.89	$62,744.44	$55.89	$0.00	$28,847.42	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$52,045.37
New Balance	$752,075.85	$703,690.67	$977,391.30	$989,711.69	$977,391.30	$987,556.56	$992,288.64	$996,868.07	$1,251,459.88	$1,222,391.30
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
2020 SPLOST Account										
Old Balance	$2,454,593.75	$2,214,063.68	$2,279,318.67	$2,182,523.97	$2,198,470.62	$2,253,937.09	$2,399,389.01	$2,464,382.12	$2,471,660.91	$2,496,833.61
Revenue	$146,218.93	$129,288.81	$132,629.05	$147,338.63	$163,457.64	$145,888.20	$145,855.39	$126,334.15	$145,746.31	$148,662.81
Expenses	$386,749.00	$64,033.82	$229,423.75	$131,391.98	$107,991.17	$436.28	$80,862.28	$119,055.36	$120,573.61	$153,195.90
New Balance	$2,214,063.68	$2,279,318.67	$2,182,523.97	$2,198,470.62	$2,253,937.09	$2,399,389.01	$2,464,382.12	$2,471,660.91	$2,496,833.61	$2,492,300.52
Outstanding Checks	$6,000.00	$102,183.75	$0.00	$0.00	$436.28	$74,069.00	$0.00	$39,490.00	$152,595.90	$4,218.05
ARPA Account										
Old Balance	$1,413,905.41	$1,413,905.41	$1,413,905.41	$1,413,905.41	$1,193,767.41	$1,193,767.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$220,138.00	$0.00	$244,530.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$1,413,905.41	$1,413,905.41	$1,413,905.41	$1,193,767.41	$1,193,767.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41	$949,237.41
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$220,138.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Senior Center Account										
Old Balance	$1,133.51	$1,161.51	$722.56	$2,364.56	$2,402.56	$2,440.56	$2,464.56	$2,260.19	$2,290.19	$2,324.19
Revenue	$28.00	$28.00	$1,642.00	$38.00	$38.00	$24.00	$28.00	$30.00	$34.00	$24.00
Expenses	$0.00	$466.95	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$232.37	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$1,161.51	$722.56	$2,364.56	$2,402.56	$2,440.56	$2,464.56	$2,260.19	$2,290.19	$2,324.19	$2,348.19
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Folkston Ice Processing Center										
Old Balance	$3,508,467.44	$3,519,929.49	$3,477,396.35	$100.00	$3,885,999.44	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$9,808,485.06
Revenue	$3,519,829.49	$3,477,296.35	$0.00	$3,885,899.44	$6,884,564.42	$0.00	$3,619,230.76	$0.00	$13,115,390.15	$13,791,344.73
Expenses	$3,508,367.44	$3,519,829.49	$3,477,296.35	$0.00	$10,770,463.86	$0.00	$3,619,230.76	$0.00	$3,307,005.09	$18,694,906.03
New Balance	$3,519,929.49	$3,477,396.35	$100.00	$3,885,999.44	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00	$9,808,485.06	$4,904,923.76
Outstanding Checks	$3,519,829.49	$3,477,296.32	$0.00	$3,885,899.44	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00

Charlton County Bank Account Information (cont.)

Account Name	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
EMS Education Program Fund										
Old Balance	$11,368.84	$10,873.84	$14,493.84	$14,501.82	$14,200.52	$22,345.52	$27,272.52	$20,272.52	$21,206.56	$21,206.56
Revenue	$0.00	$3,620.00	$500.00	$0.00	$10,600.00	$6,000.00	$0.00	$1,150.00	$0.00	$4,443.41
Expenses	$495.00	$0.00	$492.02	$301.30	$2,455.00	$1,073.00	$7,000.00	$215.96	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$10,873.84	$14,493.84	$14,501.82	$14,200.52	$22,345.52	$27,272.52	$20,272.52	$21,206.56	$21,206.56	$25,649.97
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$215.96	$0.00	$0.00	$4,738.75
Junior Firefighter Donation Account										
Old Balance	$1,064.48	$1,064.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$64.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$1,064.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48	$1,000.48
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Juvenile Account										
Old Balance	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$430.20	$430.20	$430.20
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$50.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$430.20	$430.20	$430.20	$430.20
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
911 Emergency Telephone Fund										
Old Balance	$160,381.98	$174,204.01	$187,888.22	$201,307.57	$54,547.27	$68,128.26	$81,573.78	$95,231.09	$108,764.45	$122,232.08
Revenue	$13,822.03	$13,684.21	$13,419.35	$13,280.53	$13,580.99	$13,445.52	$13,657.31	$13,533.36	$13,467.63	$13,709.97
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$160,040.83	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$174,204.01	$187,888.22	$201,307.57	$54,547.27	$68,128.26	$81,573.78	$95,231.09	$108,764.45	$122,232.08	$135,942.05
Outstanding Checks	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
CDBG 2022										
Old Balance	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$0.00
Revenue	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$63,498.27
Expenses	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$0.00
New Balance	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$63,498.27
Outstanding Checks	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	$0.00

Charlton County EMS Financial Report – October 2025

Overview:

The financial performance of Charlton County EMS for October 2025 continues to reflect a mix of improvement attempts and ongoing challenges, with overall success compared to last year.

Cash & Revenue:

- **Total Cash:** For October 2025, Charlton County EMS reported **$42,196.26** in cash, a decrease from the previous year's figure of **$47,750.37**. Year-to-date (YTD), the total cash stands at **$505,215.05**, which is a notable rise from the previous YTD total of **$362,294.51**.
- **Cash Per Transport:** The agency received an average of **$351.64** per transport this fiscal year, compared to **$468.14** per transport in October 2024.
- **Total Charges:** Total charges for October amounted to **$108,355.20**, with a year-to-date total of **$921,723.00**, an increase compared to **$821,387.06** in the previous fiscal year, despite the decrease in monthly charges from **$93,654.20** in October 2024.

Operations:

- **Transports:** The EMS team conducted **120** transports in October 2025, leading to a total of **1011 transports** YTD, compared to **102** transports and **885** YTD in the previous year. This suggests a steady commitment to operational activity, contributing positively to revenue generation throughout the year, despite a slight decrease in monthly transports.
- **Non-Transports:** The number of non-transport incidents was **15** for October 2025, with a total of **212** YTD, which shows a sharp rise from the previous year's **156** non-transports for YTD.

Discounts and Write-Offs:

- **Total Discounts and Write-Offs:** The report indicates that write-offs for October 2025 amounted to **$52,849.13**, with a year-to-date total of **$400,493.82**. In comparison to the previous fiscal year, where October 2024 had significantly less write-offs totaling **$12,394.04** and a higher YTD value of **$534,427.69.**

- **Bad Debt Write-Offs:** There has been a significant decrease in bad debt write-offs, with **$197,798.58** written off in 2025, compared to **$395,597.07** for 2024.
- **Contractual Adjustments:** Adjustments related to insurance contracts, including Medicaid and Medicare, also showed notable increases. **Medicaid write-offs** for October 2025 totaled **$3,596.41**, significantly lower than the previous year's **$5,649.40**.

Collection Rates:

- **Collection Rate:** The collection rate for the month of October 2025 was **39%**, with a year-to-date rate of **55%** compared to October 2024 which had a collection rate of **51%** and the YTD rate was **44%.** This indicates consistent attempts across the organization to collect payments and shows the year's efforts over the span of one year to increase annual revenue.
- **Adjusted Collection Rate:** After adjusting for Medicare and Medicaid, the adjusted collection rate is **42.25%** for the month of October 2025, up from **58.06%** in the previous year. This improvement indicates that after considering write-offs, the agency's ability to collect payments from eligible payers has increased.

Conclusion:

Charlton County EMS continues maintaining consistent operational numbers monthly and expanding its YTD performance, compared to the previous year. The report continues to reflect the active departmental changes, billing process improvements, and strategic plans that have been implemented to address the previous challenges with collections.

CHARLTON COUNTY EMS
426 Rosa Parks Rd
FOLKSTON Georgia 31537

October 2025(Status:Closed-Automated)
Period 10 (25-10)
Operations Report

CHARLTON COUNTY EMS

Operations Report

Period 10 (25-10)

October 2025(Status:Closed-Automated)

Cash

	This Fiscal Year		Last Fiscal Year	
	Month	Year To Date	Month	Year To Date
Total Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Non-Transports	15	212	39	156
Total Transports	120	1011	102	885
Total Cash	$42,196.26	$505,215.05	$47,750.37	$362,294.51
Cash - Adjusted YTD	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Cash Adjusted	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Disc. And W/O	$52,849.13	$400,493.82	$12,394.04	$534,427.69
Disc. And W/O Adjusted YTD	$0.00	($2,907.90)	$0.00	($2,552.67)
Total Disc. W/O Adjusted	($1,137.76)	($8,408.02)	($1,023.76)	($5,102.32)
Total Charges	$108,355.20	$921,723.00	$93,654.20	$821,387.06
Charges - Adjusted YTD	$0.00	$3,467.20	$0.00	$10,315.40
Total Charges Adjusted	($351.40)	$2,230.20	$0.00	$13,718.80
A/R Balance	$14,096.17	$722,141.89	$33,509.79	$687,278.44
Cash Per Transport	$351.64	$499.72	$468.14	$409.37
Cost Per Call	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Collection Rate	39%	55%	51%	44%

Discounts and WriteOffs

	This Fiscal Year		Last Fiscal Year	
	Month	Year To Date	Month	Year To Date
Discount	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Refund - Interest	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
WriteOff - Auto Insurance	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
WriteOff - Bad Debt	$41,717.61	$197,798.58	$0.00	$395,597.07
WriteOff - Charity	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
WriteOff - Contract	$0.00	$89.48	$0.00	$0.00
Contractual - Insurance	$3,456.96	$46,387.59	$3,710.24	$35,679.32
Contractual - Medicaid	$3,596.41	$103,035.28	$5,649.40	$58,627.52
Contractual - Medicare	$1,427.35	$17,694.90	$2,053.00	$19,124.53
WriteOff - Other	$0.00	$15,474.61	$0.00	$5,086.30
WriteOff - Self Pay	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$50.00
WriteOff - Timely Filing	$2,650.80	$16,764.44	$981.40	$15,750.28
WriteOff - Workers Comp	$0.00	$341.04	$0.00	$0.00
Total - (Minus Discount)	$52,849.13	$397,585.92	$12,394.04	$529,915.02
Adj. Collection Rate	42.25%	66.95%	58.06%	51.17%

(After Medicare and Medicaid Adj)

Adjusted Charges Report

Invoice	DOS	Org. Period	Modified Date	Previous	Adjusted	Diff	Affected AR Per.
Charge Adjustments Out Of Period							
Original Period:	**25-06**						
125061204	06/12/2025	25-06	10/23/2025	1.00	1.00	518.00	25-10
325062401	06/24/2025	25-06	10/23/2025	1.00	-1.00	-518.00	25-10
325062401	06/24/2025	25-06	10/23/2025	25.10	-25.10	-351.40	25-10
Original Period Offset:						-351.40	
Total	**Charge Adjustments Out Of Period**					**-351.40**	

Adjusted Payments Report

November 04, 2025 4:03:46 PM 25-10

Invoice	DOS	Org. Period	Modified Date	Previous	Adjusted	Diff	Affected AR Per.
WriteOff Adjustments Out Of Period							
Original Period:	**25-02**						
124042703	04/27/2024	25-02	10/14/2025	827.80	.00	-827.80	25-10
Original Period Offset:						-827.80	
Original Period:	**25-07**						
125070801	07/08/2025	25-07	10/20/2025	42.00	27.24	-14.76	25-10
125071102	07/11/2025	25-07	10/20/2025	276.20	227.00	-49.20	25-10
325071101	07/11/2025	25-07	10/20/2025	262.28	213.08	-49.20	25-10
Original Period Offset:						-113.16	
Original Period:	**25-08**						
125080402	08/04/2025	25-08	10/31/2025	348.12	298.92	-49.20	25-10
125080602	08/06/2025	25-08	10/31/2025	294.36	245.16	-49.20	25-10
325080702	08/07/2025	25-08	10/31/2025	282.48	262.28	-20.20	25-10
325080702	08/07/2025	25-08	10/31/2025	262.28	233.28	-29.00	25-10
Original Period Offset:						-147.60	
Original Period:	**25-09**						
325070903	07/10/2025	25-09	10/31/2025	287.36	291.07	3.71	25-10
325070903	07/10/2025	25-09	10/31/2025	291.07	238.16	-52.91	25-10
Original Period Offset:						-49.20	
Total	**WriteOff Adjustments Out Of Period**					**-1137.76**	

Charlton County October Financial Comparison (2020–2025)

General Fund

Change (2020–2025): ▼ 47.23% decrease

The General Fund experienced a steady decline, primarily due to higher annual expenses and reduced revenue inflows. From 2024 onward, expenditures have consistently outpaced revenue, leading to an overall reduction of more than half the fund's balance in five years.

2014 SPLOST

Change (2020–2025): ▼ 38.5% decrease

This SPLOST fund has seen minimal activity between 2022-2024, with no new revenues reported and small recurring expenses. The declining balance reflects the completion of projects funded by this special-purpose tax initiative.

Drug Education

The fund remained stable, with a brief increase in 2024 due to an influx of educational grant revenue.

Grants & Projects

Balances varied sharply:

Highly project-dependent, with huge spikes and drops in both revenue and expenses. 2025 saw strong revenue but a balance decline as spending slightly exceeded income.

EMS

Change (2020–2025): ▼ 52.59% decrease

Revenue and expenses remained relatively stable over the years, but overall declines reflect increased operational costs and limited revenue growth, reducing available reserves by half since 2020.

Recreation

Change (2020–2025): ▲ 209.53% increase

The recreation account steadily grew due to consistent revenue generation and reduced spending in recent years. The fund is now nearly triple its 2020 balance, indicating successful operational cost control.

TSPLOST

Transportation-related SPLOST funds increased significantly as collections from sales tax revenue rose. Expenditures were moderate, allowing the fund to accumulate surplus for future infrastructure investments.

Donation Account

This account remains stable with minimal activity. The modest increase results from retained balances.

Excess Funds Account

This reserve fund has grown substantially over five years, likely due to conservative expenditure practices and fund reallocations from other accounts.

Reserves Account

Change (2020–2025): ▼ 91.51% decrease

The reserves account remains largely consistent, reflecting occasional use for operational support but strong overall stability across the period.

2020 SPLOST

Change (2020–2025): ▲ 409.6% increase

Strong sales tax revenues and controlled project spending have expanded this fund dramatically. The balance more than quadrupled, highlighting effective long-term fiscal management.

ARPA

Change (2021–2025): ▼ 41.86% decrease

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds have been systematically spent over time, reflecting ongoing community investments and project completions.

Senior Center

A steady account with minimal activity, the Senior Center fund shows small annual contributions and limited expenses.

Folkston Ice Processing

Balances showed extreme fluctuation. Due to the nature of the account, large deposits and immediate expenditures in the same month are to be expected.

EMS Education Fund

Change: Significant growth since inception

The program demonstrates fiscal growth, likely due to sustained allocations for EMS training and education initiatives, maintaining positive net balances.

Junior Firefighter Donation

- **2023 Balance:** $400.48
- **2025 Balance:** $1,000.48
- **Change (2023–2025):** ▲ 249.82% increase

Modest contributions and no expenses have strengthened this account over the past two years.

Juvenile Account

2020–2025: Stable at $380–$430 range

No revenues or expenses reported, indicating static fund status throughout the five-year period.

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911 Emergency Telephone Fund

Change (2023–2025): ▼ 48.03% decrease from 2023 high of $282,994.94

Although revenues were consistent, previous fund surpluses decreased as funds were likely reallocated or utilized for operational enhancements in 2024–2025.

Annual Comparison of October Bank Statements						
Account Name	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2020**
General Fund						
Old Balance	$2,117,870.77	$1,452,366.98	$1,818,810.10	$2,640,342.14	$5,169,787.71	$4,747,527.12
Revenue	$1,247,773.46	$1,466,843.48	$3,318,800.41	$1,658,971.89	$1,641,086.67	$2,111,129.28
Expenses	$868,596.49	$1,028,563.55	$878,951.11	$694,111.52	$924,716.21	$1,572,710.07
New Balance	$2,497,047.74	$1,890,646.91	$4,258,659.40	$3,605,202.51	$5,886,158.17	$5,285,946.33
2014 SPLOST						
Old Balance	$445,079.31	$515,800.06	$528,311.77	$575,454.48	$901,583.95	$1,020,148.77
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$53,511.02	$22.55	$0.00	$799.00	$25,477.64	$3,198.08
New Balance	$391,568.29	$515,777.51	$528,311.77	$575,655.48	$876,106.31	$1,016,950.69
Drug Education						
Old Balance	$80,271.54	$95,927.00	$77,612.62	$70,718.03	$70,219.42	$72,349.03
Revenue	$1,139.96	$4.00	$2,047.50	$3,372.27	$1,131.02	$5,228.00
Expenses	$1,792.41	$94.58	$377.26	$0.00	$1,145.11	$80.00
New Balance	$79,619.09	$95,836.42	$79,282.86	$74,090.30	$70,205.33	$77,497.03
Grants & Projects						
Old Balance	$2,497,077.33	$2,528,649.31	$1,937,437.50	$576,954.15	$690,511.46	$636,636.10
Revenue	$12,977,719.00	$3,497,199.72	$3,266,080.92	$0.00	$11,218.50	$624,120.27
Expenses	$13,810,145.97	$3,605,724.36	$3,271,261.44	$20,624.40	$27,640.72	$624,163.52
New Balance	$1,664,650.36	$2,420,124.67	$1,932,256.98	$556,329.75	$674,089.24	$636,592.85
EMS						
Old Balance	$242,146.78	$184,984.15	$262,943.46	$323,892.71	$465,360.26	$496,057.52
Revenue	$38,561.87	$62,742.42	$50,642.51	$65,993.51	$39,306.19	$41,299.27
Expenses	$28,358.79	$31,166.35	$48,640.02	$58,623.31	$52,917.13	$57,532.45
New Balance	$252,349.86	$216,560.22	$264,945.95	$331,262.91	$451,749.32	$479,824.34

Annual Comparison of October Bank Statements						
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Recreation						
Old Balance	$38,315.96	$52,832.10	$32,470.35	$39,298.58	$29,837.85	$13,860.70
Revenue	$3,741.45	$3,446.27	$4,769.71	$4,150.06	$3,903.40	$1,813.95
Expenses	$11,369.38	$2,441.56	$3,776.32	$2,128.05	$3,409.70	$1,029.00
New Balance	$30,688.03	$53,836.81	$33,463.74	$41,320.59	$30,331.55	$14,645.65
TSPLOST						
Old Balance	$1,784,480.34	$1,719,383.16	$1,360,109.87	$1,275,368.54	$788,549.08	$423,533.16
Revenue	$43,581.05	$38,948.70	$39,407.22	$38,030.97	$59,905.04	$30,781.76
Expenses	$30,614.00	$166,363.06	$0.00	$2,291.60	$3,739.50	$11,700.00
New Balance	$1,797,447.39	$1,591,968.80	$1,399,517.09	$1,311,107.91	$844,714.62	$442,614.92
Donation Account						
Old Balance	$10,278.77	$9,708.27	$9,047.77	$8,009.04	$7,556.68	$6,391.68
Revenue	$300.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$250.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$6.00
New Balance	$10,578.77	$9,708.27	$9,047.77	$8,009.04	$7,806.68	$6,385.68
Excess Funds Account						
Old Balance	$99,528.19	$81,365.57	$95,864.64	$75,963.92	$87,591.64	$34,558.38
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$19,938.55	$0.00	$0.00	$1,673.51	$0.00
New Balance	$99,528.19	$61,427.02	$95,864.64	$75,963.92	$85,918.13	$34,558.38
Reserves Account(Previously Assigned Funds)						
Old Balance	$1,251,459.88	$192,902.17	$1,412,801.98	$1,101,192.64	$1,510,477.62	$1,335,668.57
Revenue	$22,976.79	$0.00	$17,890.75	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$52,045.37	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
New Balance	$1,222,391.30	$192,902.17	$1,430,692.73	$1,101,192.64	$1,510,477.62	$1,335,668.57

Annual Comparison of October Bank Statements

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
2020 SPLOST Account						
Old Balance	$2,496,833.61	$2,264,645.86	$1,634,527.34	$1,450,206.86	$1,197,692.17	$497,429.28
Revenue	$148,662.81	$128,662.86	$125,832.01	$116,446.90	$110,475.79	$110,903.12
Expenses	$153,195.90	$170,300.28	$6,793.28	$13,415.49	$20,982.11	$0.00
New Balance	$2,492,300.52	$2,223,008.44	$1,753,566.07	$1,553,238.27	$1,287,185.85	$608,332.40
ARPA Account						
Old Balance	$949,237.41	$1,486,259.89	$1,955,103.38	$2,267,424.78	*	*
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	*	*
Expenses	$0.00	$68,656.48	$0.00	$0.00	*	*
New Balance	$949,237.41	$1,417,603.41	$1,955,103.38	$2,267,424.78	*	*
Senior Center Account						
Old Balance	$2,324.19	$1,152.13	$1,624.59	$1,382.69	$2,025.82	$1,919.08
Revenue	$24.00	$228.00	$60.00	$24.00	$0.00	$0.00
Expenses	$0.00	$520.62	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$191.00
New Balance	$2,348.19	$859.51	$1,684.59	$1,406.69	$2,025.82	$1,728.08
Folkston Ice Processing Center						
Old Balance	$9,808,485.06	$100.00	$3,259,813.88	$3,123,449.48	$1,300,619.50	*
Revenue	$13,791,344.73	$3,490,119.68	$3,258,034.60	$3,118,420.36	$0.00	*
Expenses	$18,694,906.03	$2,701,021.17	$5,744,526.94	$3,123,349.48	$0.00	*
New Balance	$4,904,923.76	$789,198.51	$773,321.54	$3,118,520.36	$1,300,619.50	*
EMS Education Program Fund						
Old Balance	$21,206.56	$9,868.84	$14,571.01	$19,500.00	*	*
Revenue	$4,443.41	$1,500.00	$0.00	$4,550.00	*	*
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$721.17	*	*
New Balance	$25,649.97	$11,368.84	$14,571.01	$23,328.83	*	*

Annual Comparison of October Bank Statements						
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Junior Firefighter Donation Account						
Old Balance	$1,000.48	$1,114.48	$406.48	*	*	*
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	*	*	*
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$6.00	*	*	*
New Balance	$1,000.48	$1,114.48	$400.48	*	*	*
Juvenile Account						
Old Balance	$430.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$0.00	*
Revenue	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$100.00	*
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$70.52	*
New Balance	$430.20	$380.20	$380.20	$380.20	$29.48	*
911 Emergency Telephone Fund						
Old Balance	$122,232.08	$119,663.12	$269,774.23	$58,491.22	*	*
Revenue	$13,709.97	$13,623.61	$13,220.71	$69,671.86	*	*
Expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	*	*
New Balance	$135,942.05	$133,286.73	$282,994.94	$128,163.08	*	*

Corporate
Health Partners

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

CHARLTON COUNTY

October 2025

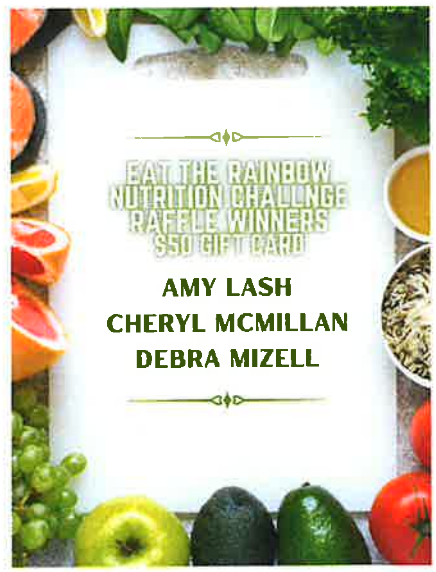
Program Manager: Kristin Bowie
Health Coach: Jill Sloan
Client Success Manager: Susie O'Brian

Coaching

	Results Coaching Sessions	Follow Up Coaching Sessions

Accomplishments from October

- Follow-Up Coaching
  - Coach Jill was onsite on October 1st & 15th for follow-up coaching.
- Health Promotion
  - Three winners of the September nutrition challenge "Eat the Rainbow" were awarded a $50 gift card.
  - The November healthy break "Navigating the Holidays" was announced
- Monthly Wellness Resources
  - An email blast & bulk text notification was sent to all wellness participants introducing the monthly health promotion resources that are available on the wellness portal.



Objectives for November

- Follow-Up Coaching
  - Coach Jill will be onsite for follow-up coaching sessions.
- November Healthy Break
  - Navigating the Holidays is this month's virtual healthy break. There are three opportunities to attend. Attendees will be entered into a gift carc raffle for $25.
- The December challenge "Maintain Don't Gain" will be announced on November 17th.
  - This challenge is designed to encourage participants to avoid weight gain during the holiday season.
  - Participants will be entered into a $50 gift card raffle.
- Monthly Wellness Resources
  - Continue to share the monthly health resources available on the wellness portal through email and bulk text notifications.