

Program #10055 - Diversion Services 7/24/2020

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Marc Jolin
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

A Home for Everyone (AHFE) has identified diversion as a critical strategy to reduce the number of people experiencing street and shelter homelessness in our community. This program funds existing capacity to divert people from homelessness who are escaping domestic violence, facing imminent housing loss, or are exiting the criminal justice and healthcare systems. This program will divert hundreds of men, women and children from street and shelter homelessness.

Program Summary

Diversion programs vary by implementation, but have in common the assessment of an individual who is facing living on the streets or in shelter to determine whether they have a housing option they could access with a modest, one-time, financial and/or staffing investment. Diversion is recognized nationally and locally as a critical tool in reducing street and shelter homelessness.

- Family Diversion has been a successful intervention for both preventing families from coming to emergency shelter and moving families out of shelter quickly. All families are surveyed to determine if they have an immediate housing option and, if so, diversion resources are used to help them capitalize on that opportunity.
- Criminal Justice Diversion resources are directed to people leaving incarceration through a partnership with the County's Department of Community Justice (DCJ) that offers access to employment, treatment, and housing assistance resources to ensure that they do not become homeless.
- DV Diversion services focus on preventing homelessness and diverting domestic violence survivors and their children from shelters through eviction prevention or housing placement. Diversion services offer flexible, rapid responses that allow survivors to avoid the trauma and safety risks of becoming homeless. These services reach hundreds of survivors annually and serve a diverse population, with 86% identifying as People of Color.
- Hospital Diversion partners with the hospital system to provide essential rental assistance and care coordination resources to hospital discharge workers to allow patients to discharge to housing options and not to the streets or shelter.
- Transportation Assistance diverts individuals from the streets and shelter through one-time transportation assistance to a location where they have a verified housing option. Most commonly this program reunites individuals with family in other communities.
- Benefit Assistance serves homeless and formerly homeless individuals with assistance in securing Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), and/or Medicaid and Medicare benefits. These benefits provide critical financial and health care resources that allow recipients to avoid homelessness.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	Number of people receiving diversion services	1,564	1,800	1,800	1,800
Outcome	Percentage of exits to permanent housing*	92%	95%	95%	95%
Output	Number of people receiving benefits assistance services (BEST Program)	449	400	400	400

Performance Measures Descriptions

*This measure excludes BEST, Health Connections and Peer Health Navigators

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Contractual Services	\$1,504,903	\$1,525,500	\$1,393,380	\$1,557,930
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,504,903	\$1,525,500	\$1,393,380	\$1,557,930
Program Total:	\$3,030,403		\$2,951,310	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,525,500	\$0	\$1,557,930
Beginning Working Capital	\$384,800	\$0	\$285,000	\$0
Total Revenue	\$384,800	\$1,525,500	\$285,000	\$1,557,930

Explanation of Revenues

City of Portland General Fund - \$1,557,930
 Multnomah County Tax Title Fund - \$285,000

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 10055A-20 Diversion Services