

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Mark Sanford
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs: 25002B
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program offer is for increased funding to the Public Guardian/Conservator program (PGC) which, under court authority, makes vital decisions for mentally incapacitated, dependent and impoverished adults who are current or recent victims of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation. This offer will continue to fund one Deputy Guardian position, which was funded as one-time-only in FY16, to significantly expand the capacity to serve up to 40 more individuals who are at risk for harm, providing immediate protection and access to care.

Program Summary

Aging, Disability and Veterans Services Division proposes to increase funding for the PGC program to expand the capacity to serve more high-risk, low-income adults with diminished capacity, and provide enhanced outreach and education on legal surrogacy to communities of color and other underserved populations. These individuals are at risk for harm because of their inability to meet basic needs; lack of access to healthcare, including medical treatment for chronic conditions and psychiatric stabilization; and high susceptibility to victimization. They are frequently homeless or, if temporarily placed, often remain in more restrictive and costly settings. In the past year, 56% of new intakes were over utilizing emergency departments and/or requiring extended and preventable hospitalizations – including state hospital care – and 78% had significant medical needs.

The demand for services is impacted by the aging of the population, including people with disabilities; the aging of caregivers; the rising incidence of abuse and self-neglect among the elderly and disabled population; and the lack of resources for legal surrogacy. Despite this demand, the PGC program's capacity to serve Multnomah County residents is constrained by staffing levels and caseload size. Prior to the use of one-time-only money to fund this offer for FY16, experienced Deputy Guardians were managing caseloads of 40 clients, which is twice the nationally recommended standard of 20 clients/guardian. With this funding, caseloads are now in the low 30s per guardian. New intakes will increase by 65%. Because this is a new initiative and the goal is reaching potentially underserved populations, the program is in the process of conducting outreach and training to culturally-specific providers, including Urban League, Native American Youth and Family Center and the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, with the goal of increasing the number of consultations for individuals from racial and ethnic minority populations.

The program will maintain standards for serving the most high-risk clients, and can typically take on 15 new clients per year. If enhanced funding continues, the program will be able to take on an additional 10 clients per year. At least 15-20 additional people are referred to the program each year who have significant risk factors and could benefit from intervention. It is anticipated it could take up to three more years to reach overall caseload size of 40 clients/guardian. Without this funding, the program will likely need to suspend intake and resort to a waiting list for future, urgent referrals.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY15 Actual	FY16 Purchased	FY16 Estimate	FY17 Offer
Output	Number of intakes per year ¹	N/A	10	10	10
Outcome	Urgent client safety needs addressed within five days after court appointment ²	N/A	100%	95%	96%

Performance Measures Descriptions

¹Current number of new intakes is limited by attrition due to mortality, approx 15/yr. An additional 10 intakes are possible with purchase of this program offer. Program will maintain standards for service to highest risk clients allowing for gradual caseload development for a new Deputy Guardian. Anticipate up to three years to reach overall caseload size of 40 clients.

²Urgent client safety issues are addressed immediately upon court appointment.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2016	2016	2017	2017
Personnel	\$91,044	\$0	\$100,513	\$0
Contractual Services	\$4,514	\$0	\$4,514	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$95,558	\$0	\$115,027	\$0
Program Total:	\$95,558		\$115,027	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2016: 25026B-16 ADVSD Public Guardian/Conservator Expansion