

**Department:** County Human Services

**Program Contact:** Rachel Pearl

**Program Offer Type:** Operating

**Program Offer Stage:** Adopted

**Related Programs:**
**Program Characteristics:**
**Executive Summary**

Domestic violence is a complex issue, often requiring legal intervention to address client safety and offender accountability. The legal system is complex and navigating it can be traumatic for survivors. High quality legal services assist survivors who choose a legal intervention and need support through the process.

**Program Description**

**ISSUE:** The court system can be difficult to navigate without professional legal representation and the cost of legal representation can be a barrier. There are very few resources for legal support available for low income survivors. As a result, survivors are often forced to appear in court without representation or legal advocacy. Survivors and provider agencies report that legal services are one of the highest unmet needs in the service continuum.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** Civil legal services help survivors navigate the court system. Funded programs provide support, consultation and legal representation for survivors.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** Program activities focus on the provision of legal support. These specialized legal services for survivors help ensure better outcomes in legal proceedings. Services include support with restraining order hearings, custody and parenting time, immigration, housing, and other victim's rights related issues.

This program also supports services based in the Multnomah County Courthouse. The Restraining Order Services Room advocates assist survivors in obtaining protection orders. The Court Care program provides childcare in the Courthouse for families attending legal proceedings.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of domestic violence survivors assisted with courthouse-based restraining order advocacy	2,569	800	800	800
Outcome	Percentage of retained cases with a court action filed or contested by an attorney	100%	75%	80%	75%
Output	Percentage of participants who identify as BIPOC	50%	40%	40%	40%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Legal Services contractors served significantly more participants in FY23 because of a shift to phone-based services that was necessary due to ongoing closure of the court to in-person advocacy services. The number reported represents 649 unique individuals served with in-person support, plus 1950 total calls made to the funded protection order hotline. We anticipate that service levels will return to their previous baseline in FY24 and FY25, as in-person court support has re-started.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Contractual Services	\$216,401	\$35,000	\$221,355	\$35,000
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$216,401</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$221,355</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$251,401</b>		<b>\$256,355</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>

Explanation of Revenues

\$35,000 - Oregon Judicial Department Court Care Center (State)

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 25046 YFS - Domestic Violence Legal Services