

Division: Youth & Family Services

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

Domestic violence (DV) often requires legal intervention to address survivor safety and offender accountability, yet low income survivors face significant barriers to navigating a complex court system without representation. Legal services remain one of the highest unmet needs in the DV service continuum.

DV Legal Services provides free, specialized civil legal services and courthouse-based supports for low income DV survivors and their families in Multnomah County. Program activities include:

- Providing high-quality legal support, consultation, and representation, including assistance with restraining order hearings, custody and parenting time, immigration, housing, and other victim-rights issues.
- Delivering courthouse-based advocacy for survivors seeking protection orders through Restraining Order Services Room staff.
- Providing on-site childcare at courthouses to reduce children's exposure to vicarious trauma.

This offer supports the Youth and Family Services (YFS) Division Outcome of Safety and Resilience by increasing survivor safety, reducing barriers to essential legal remedies, and supporting equitable access for our most marginalized community members who are disproportionately impacted by domestic violence.

Equity Statement

Domestic Violence Legal Services seeks to increase opportunities for legal support for victims and survivors of domestic violence. This program helps survivors pursue safety, accountability, and access to legal support by providing courthouse advocacy as well as expanded support services.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Contractual Services	\$225,726	\$35,000	\$232,125	\$35,000
Total GF/non-GF	\$225,726	\$35,000	\$232,125	\$35,000
Total Expenses:	\$260,726		\$267,125	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Number of domestic violence survivors assisted with courthouse-based restraining order advocacy	1,345	1,200	1,200
Percentage of retained cases with a court action filed or contested by an attorney	85%	75%	75%