

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Rose-Ellen Bak  
**Program Offer Type:** Program Alternative/Reconstruction      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

This offer funds legal advocacy and civil legal services for survivors of domestic violence through contracted services at local nonprofit agencies. It also supports advocacy with restraining order services room at Multnomah County courthouse.

**Program Summary**

The cost of legal representation can be prohibitive for survivors who have low or no income and have been financially exploited by their abusers. As a result, survivors of domestic violence often are forced to appear in court without representation or legal advocacy. Specialized legal services for domestic and sexual violence survivors ensure better outcomes in legal proceedings and include assistance with restraining order hearings, custody and parenting time determinations, housing retention, immigration matters, and related victims' rights and other civil legal matters.

This offer funds legal advocacy and civil legal services for survivors through local nonprofit agencies. This funding also supports advocacy in the Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) restraining order services room at Multnomah County courthouse. Approximately 800 survivors are assisted each year.

Civil legal services are among the highest reported unmet needs for domestic violence survivors. Legal advocacy and civil legal services reduce domestic violence by helping victims safely end abusive relationships and resolve issues that cannot be addressed by human service or criminal justice interventions. Civil legal assistance is related to the reduction in reported domestic violence crimes and improves the likelihood that survivors will be able to obtain protective orders from courts, which is a significant factor in reducing rates of violence.

Funding also will leverage Court Care program and provide child care for at least 198 children while parents are attending legal proceedings.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY15 Actual	FY16 Purchased	FY16 Estimate	FY17 Offer
Output	Number of domestic violence survivors assisted with courthouse-based restraining order advocacy.	N/A	N/A	N/A	800
Outcome	% of retained cases with a court action filed or contested by an attorney.	N/A	N/A	N/A	75%
Output	Number of families served by CourtCare.	N/A	N/A	N/A	198

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2016	2016	2017	2017
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$199,844	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$199,844</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$199,844</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

**Last Year this program was:** FY 2016: 25042-16 Domestic Violence Community Based Services

Services from FY16 Program Offer 25042 (DV Community-based Services) have been divided into three separate program offers this year: Culturally specific and underserved domestic violence services; domestic violence legal services; and the Defending Childhood Program addressing children's exposure to violence.