

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

Domestic violence is a leading cause of violent victimization, accounting for more than 40% of all reported violent crime and 25% of homicides in Multnomah County. It does not present uniformly across racial/ethnic and other intersectional demographics, so individuals seeking safety from domestic violence need access to client-centered and culturally-relevant services when the time is right for them. The Domestic Violence Crisis Response Unit (DVCRU) provides intervention for cases with a high risk of ongoing, severe violence or lethality. The DVCRU works with law enforcement to provide after-hours victim services and crisis response, including a focus on older adults experiencing violence. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in the frequency and severity of domestic violence, resulting in increased demand for services.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** Complex domestic violence cases with a high risk of ongoing, severe abuse require an immediate, multidisciplinary, collaborative response in order to de-escalate violence and prevent domestic violence-related deaths in the community.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** The goal of the DVCRU program is to increase victim safety and offender accountability where there is high risk of lethality and concern of immediate/severe re-assault.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:** As part of a multi-jurisdictional effort to improve responses to domestic violence, the DVCRU provides daytime and after-hours victim advocates to provide immediate on-scene crisis response, safety planning and victim support following police response to domestic violence crimes. The team has one FTE focused on older adults who are victims of violence from family members or caregivers to reduce the risk of injury and death from abuse. All DVCRU advocates are co-located with police, including the Elder Crimes Unit.

DVCRU includes four program components: Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT), Domestic Violence Response Advocates (DVRA), Elder & Vulnerable Adults Advocate and advocacy attached to the Domestic Violence Reduction Unit (DVRU). DVRA's provide after-hours on-scene crisis response, safety planning, and victim support services following police response to violent crimes. Advocates are available seven days a week, including late nights and holidays. The DVRU advocate works with officers five days a week as part of the investigation unit and includes victim support services, court accompaniment, and coordination with community agencies. The case staffing team provides crisis response, ongoing victim support, client financial assistance, criminal justice intervention, and service coordination across multiple agencies. The Elder/Vulnerable adult advocate collaborates with the Elder Crimes unit to support adults over 55yo or those experiencing other vulnerability with client assistance, systems navigation, safety planning and protective order assistance. Because of the essential nature of this work the DVCRU has continued to provide this in-person service, uninterrupted, during the pandemic.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of survivors receiving multi-disciplinary, intensive intervention <sup>1</sup>	150	200	200	200
Outcome	% of police officers who agree that DV survivors benefit from having DVRA's on the scene	95%	90%	90%	90%
Output	Number of domestic violence survivors referred by police to afterhours victim advocates <sup>2</sup>	1,200	700	1,000	1,000

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

<sup>1</sup>Outputs lower in FY 2020 due to significant staffing turnover in the unit. Service levels are anticipated to return to their original level in FY 2021.  
<sup>2</sup>The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in domestic violence, resulting in a much higher number of referrals for crisis services. Totals adjusted to better reflect service levels.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$707,420	\$355,936	\$793,484	\$323,133
Contractual Services	\$50,000	\$247,710	\$50,000	\$217,000
Materials & Supplies	\$27,856	\$0	\$9,070	\$0
Internal Services	\$141,152	\$12,923	\$198,774	\$5,037
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$926,428</b>	<b>\$616,569</b>	<b>\$1,051,328</b>	<b>\$545,170</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$1,542,997</b>		<b>\$1,596,498</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	6.41	3.59	7.00	3.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$616,569	\$0	\$545,170
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$616,569</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$545,170</b>

Explanation of Revenues

\$328,170 - City of Portland General Fund  
 \$217,000 - US Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 25047 YFS - Domestic Violence Crisis Response Unit