

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Mary Li
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

The Homeless Benefits Recovery Project (HBR) utilizes a proven program model to assist 208 chronically homeless individuals with mental illness, addictions, and disabilities in accessing federal benefits, such as Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI), and services to which they are entitled but have been unable to receive because their disabilities prevent them from successful navigation of the application or appeals system. Based on census data estimates and data from the Social Security Administration, locally only 11% of those eligible receive benefits.

Program Summary

HBR assists approximately 208 individuals annually who are served by the Multnomah Treatment Fund (MTF). MTF is a County General Fund program serving a limited number of individuals with mental illness and without insurance or benefits. Seventy-five percent of those served are expected to receive benefits.

HBR services include: eligibility screening, application assistance, appeals process advocacy, case management, and medical and other documentation to individuals evaluated to be potentially eligible for SSI/SSDI. HBR targets those who would potentially not be on the County's caseload if they had access to the benefits for which they are eligible, or those currently on the County's caseload whose cost of care is not reimbursed. Local estimates using census data identifies 39% of the chronic homeless population as eligible for SSI/SSDI as a result of mental illness, and 46% eligible as a result of their physical health. Benefit recovery efforts are a key strategy of the local 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Without benefits, individuals are either without services and utilizing expensive, locally-funded safety net services (including jail or hospital/medical care), or have their treatment paid for with scarce local community (non-federal) funds.

At the start of services, HBR clients were receiving an average of \$107 per month, and at exit they were receiving \$788 per month. Forty-one percent of clients had no primary health care option at the start of services and 99% are now covered through Medicaid.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output	Number of individuals served	208	120	233	233
Outcome	Percentage of individuals served who receive benefits	88%	75%	75%	75%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Increased numbers to be served reflects the addition of City of Portland funds contracted through the Division.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

N/A

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Contractual Services	\$427,074	\$0	\$436,470	\$112,000
Total GF/non-GF	\$427,074	\$0	\$436,470	\$112,000
Program Total:	\$427,074		\$548,470	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$112,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$112,000

Explanation of Revenues

\$112,000 - City of Portland

Significant Program ChangesLast Year this program was: FY 2015: 25115A Homeless Benefit Recovery Project (HBR)

City funds procured jointly are included.