

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

Executive Summary

Ensuring that there is sufficient heat in a home, the lights are on and water is hot is critical for people to have quality of life. Functional utilities help ensure that a young person can study at home, an older adult is living safely and families remain stable. The Energy Assistance Program supports housing stability by providing people who live on a fixed or low income with financial assistance to help meet their energy costs.

Program Summary

ISSUE: A study from the Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy makes it clear that low-income households suffer a disproportionate energy burden. Many low-income households use expensive heating fuels in old, inefficient homes and face barriers to accessing technologies that could help make their energy costs more affordable. Thus, the average energy burden for low-income households is 8.2%. This is 3 times higher than higher-income households.

PROGRAM GOAL: The goal of the energy assistance program is to provide one-time annual energy bill payments to pay utilities for households who live on a fixed or low income and who are struggling with energy costs, so they can remain stably housed.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: The Energy Assistance Program helps people keep their homes warm in the winter. Direct utility payments to income-eligible households, along with energy education, case management, and other services help households manage and pay for their energy costs while providing education about other services. Energy bill payment assistance is delivered through seven community nonprofit agencies to make these utility payments for fixed and low-income households. On average, program participants receive \$445 in utility assistance each year.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of households served	17,473	15,000	15,000	15,000
Outcome	Percentage of households served after receiving shutoff notice who avoid disconnection.	100%	100%	100%	100%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$0	\$569,859	\$0	\$816,830
Contractual Services	\$0	\$11,810,545	\$0	\$11,271,287
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$98,220	\$0	\$19,769
Internal Services	\$0	\$202,852	\$0	\$230,641
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$12,681,476	\$0	\$12,338,527
Program Total:	\$12,681,476		\$12,338,527	
Program FTE	0.00	5.70	0.00	7.90

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$12,756,721	\$0	\$12,338,527
Total Revenue	\$0	\$12,756,721	\$0	\$12,338,527

Explanation of Revenues

\$6,752.600 - OHCSO Oregon Energy Assistance Program
 \$5,505,927 - OHCSO Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Energy
 \$80,000 - PDX Water/Sewer D/A

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 25119-19 YFS - Energy Assistance

A net decrease in contracted services due to an increase of \$0.7M in LIEAP funds and a decrease of \$1.2M in OEAP Funds.