

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	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	Number of households served.	18,186	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

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Personnel	\$0	\$737,045	\$0	\$847,602
Contractual Services	\$0	\$11,271,287	\$0	\$9,070,592
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$19,769	\$0	\$31,798
Internal Services	\$0	\$230,641	\$0	\$249,147
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$12,258,742	\$0	\$10,199,139
Program Total:	\$12,258,742		\$10,199,139	
Program FTE	0.00	7.40	0.00	8.13

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$12,338,527	\$0	\$10,199,139
Total Revenue	\$0	\$12,338,527	\$0	\$10,199,139

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$112,391 in indirect revenues.
 \$5,373,793 - OHCSO Oregon Energy Assistance Program
 \$4,745,346 - OHCSO Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Energy
 \$80,000 - PDX Water/Sewer D/A

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 25119-20 YFS - Energy Assistance

A net decrease in Contracted Services due to a decrease of \$0.8M in LIEAP funds and a decrease of \$1.4M in OEAP Funds.