



**Program #25119 - YFS - Energy Assistance** FY 2024 Department Requested

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing      **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** In Target

**Executive Summary**

In order for people to have quality of life, they need to have enough heat in their home, the lights on, and hot water. Functional utilities help ensure that a young person can learn at home, an older adult is safe, and families remain stable. This is even more important during the COVID-19 pandemic, where staying home means saving lives. The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) supports housing stability by providing financial help to people who live on a fixed or low income. The EAP emphasizes providing equitable access for all people who need help meeting their energy needs.

**Program Description**

**ISSUE:** The average energy burden for low-income households is 8.2% - 3 times higher than higher-income households. Many low-income households use expensive heating fuels. Their homes are often older and less efficient, and they face barriers to accessing the technology that would help reduce their energy costs. Additionally, Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color bear a further disproportionate energy burden. In 2016, the American Council for Energy Efficient Economy found that almost half of all energy-poor households in the US were Black. We also know that people in BIPOC households were more likely to lose their jobs or experience a reduction in wages during the COVID-19 pandemic. These added economic hardships can make it even more difficult for households to meet their basic energy needs.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** The Energy Assistance Program provides one-time annual energy bill payments for households who live on a fixed or low income and who are struggling with energy costs. This will help keep these families in stable housing.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** The Energy Assistance Program provides direct utility payments to income-eligible households. The EAP also provides energy education, case management, and other services. This helps households manage and pay for their energy costs, as well as learn about other services. The EAP consists of seven community nonprofit agencies who deliver the energy bill payments for fixed and low-income households. On average, program participants received \$670 in utility help last year. To better meet community needs, the EAP is prioritizing culturally-specific outreach to BIPOC populations, as well as elders and families who may need energy cost help.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of households served. <sup>1</sup>	25,513	16,500	16,500	16,500
Outcome	Percentage of households served after receiving shutoff notice who avoid disconnection.	100%	100%	100%	100%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

<sup>1</sup> Increased output reflects additional one time funding sources as part of COVID-19 relief efforts.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>
Personnel	\$0	\$962,106	\$0	\$1,159,808
Contractual Services	\$0	\$11,103,767	\$0	\$14,960,391
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$170,129	\$0	\$477,383
Internal Services	\$0	\$352,134	\$0	\$319,787
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$12,588,136</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,917,369</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$12,588,136</b>		<b>\$16,917,369</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	8.40	0.00	10.00

<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$12,588,136	\$0	\$16,917,369
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$12,588,136</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,917,369</b>

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$142,886 in indirect revenues.  
 \$9,036,377 - OHCS D Low Income Energy Assistance Program - Energy (LIEAP) (Federal)  
 \$7,321,479 - OHCS D Oregon Energy Assistance Program (OEAP) (State)  
 \$479,513 -Federal LIH Water Assistance Program (LIHWA) Consolidated Appropriations (Federal)  
 \$80,000 - PDX Water/Sewer D/A (Local)

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 25119 YFS - Energy Assistance

Moved 2.40 FTE Weatherization Experts to program offer 25121  
 Added 3.00 Program Technicians and 1.00 FTE Program Specialist (all 4 positions moved from program offer 25491)