

Division: Youth & Family Services

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

Functional utilities are fundamental to meet basic needs. Heat, light, and water are essential for safety and stability. Low-income households face a three-times higher energy burden due to inefficient homes, expensive fuels, and barriers to cost-reducing technology. In Multnomah County, 27% of residents are energy burdened, an increase of 3% from 2020.

Contributing significantly to these rising levels of energy insecurity is the weight of drastic increases in electricity bills.

Residential customers using local utility providers have seen increases of close to 50% in their energy rates since 2021.

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) provides one-time annual energy bill payments, emphasizing equitable access for all households in need. The program is delivered by seven nonprofit agencies. Program activities include:

- Providing direct utility payments and case management to income-eligible households.
- Providing energy education to help reduce utility costs.
- Reaching vulnerable communities through outreach and culturally specific providers.

This offer supports the Youth and Family Services (YFS) Division Outcomes of Housing and Economic Stability and Health and Wellness by ensuring households do not experience energy disconnection that could endanger their health, disrupt work and education, and lead ultimately to housing instability.

Equity Statement

Energy Services are delivered through culturally responsive and specific organizations using an equity lens. These organizations ensure fair access for all Multnomah County residents facing utility disconnection inclusive of strategic outreach to marginalized communities reflective of clients' specific needs and culture.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | 2026 General Fund | 2026 Other Funds | 2027 General Fund | 2027 Other Funds |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Personnel | \$0 | \$1,013,632 | \$0 | \$936,311 |
| Contractual Services | \$152,170 | \$10,709,601 | \$157,193 | \$9,698,125 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$0 | \$57,250 | \$0 | \$57,473 |
| Internal Services | \$0 | \$303,044 | \$0 | \$252,923 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$152,170 | \$12,083,527 | \$157,193 | \$10,944,832 |
| Total Expenses: | \$12,235,697 | | \$11,102,025 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 7.50 | 0.00 | 6.50 |

Program Revenues

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Intergovernmental | \$0 | \$12,083,527 | \$0 | \$10,944,832 |
| Total Revenue | \$0 | \$12,083,527 | \$0 | \$10,944,832 |

Performance Measures

| Performance Measure | FY25 Actual | FY26 Estimate | FY27 Target |
|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Number of households served | 21,693 | 18,000 | 21,000 |
| Number of households that avoid disconnection after receiving a shutoff notice | 21,693 | 18,000 | 21,000 |