

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