

Program #25130 - YFS - Family Unification Program
FY 2026 Proposed
Department: County Human Services

Program Contact: Lori Stegmann

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs: 25139

Program Characteristics:
Program Description

ISSUE: The legacy of systemic racism in Child Welfare profoundly affects families. Black, Indigenous and other families of color are significantly overrepresented in the child welfare system.

PROGRAM GOAL: The program goal is to support and empower families and remove the threat of homelessness so they can be reunited, achieve stable housing, and exit from DHS child welfare system. The Family Unification Program (FUP) helps families secure safe and stable housing, which is a foundation for reunification with their children.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: FUP provides families with a comprehensive and coordinated range of supports. Services include housing placement, case management, flexible client services, permanent housing vouchers, and access to WorkSource development products. FUP is a partnership between DCHS/YFS, Oregon Department of Human Services and Home Forward, which provides the HUD-funded Housing Choice vouchers. To address the impacts of racism, FUP uses culturally specific approaches of family engagement and support, in order to help parents keep or regain custody of their child/children. FUP offers support for education, employment, child care and parenting. Services are delivered by culturally responsive community agencies.

Case managers use the Assertive Engagement model, which recognizes the individual as the expert in their own life and helps families choose their own path and goals. The program partners with a community-based nonprofit legal organization, which helps remove legal barriers, such as record expungement and mitigation of fines. Flexible service options are also available and may include payments for household and life-needs, supporting involvement in groups and activities and related services.

The program leverages 261 federal HUD Housing Choice vouchers; the estimated annual value of these vouchers when fully utilized is over \$4 million.

PROGRAM OUTPUTS:

- Provides supportive wraparound case management, including housing placement, landlord negotiation, and move-in assistance to families involved with DHS Child Welfare.
- Provides permanent housing vouchers to participating families.
- Provides flexible client assistance funding to support family stability outcomes.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Number of families who engage in housing placement and stability services ¹	126	191	120	120
Output	Percent of families who engage in case management	75%	80%	80%	80%

Performance Measures Descriptions

¹The FY 2025 budgeted estimate has turned out to be too high given the increasing cost of rent and barriers to housing placement. The FY 2025 Estimate and FY 2026 Target reflect the current environment.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Contractual Services	\$648,440	\$300,000	\$664,004	\$300,000
Total GF/non-GF	\$648,440	\$300,000	\$664,004	\$300,000
Program Total:	\$948,440		\$964,004	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000

Explanation of Revenues

\$300,000 - Family Unification Program (Federal)

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 25130 YFS - Family Unification Program