

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

Multnomah County is in a severe housing crisis and many low-income residents lack housing and/or economic stability. Legal barriers and debt are roadblocks to overall stability and prevent access to housing, employment, education and community involvement. People of color and people with disabilities are disproportionately impacted by debt and legal barriers because of disparate treatment in the justice system, discrimination, and systemic racism. Legal Services Days remove barriers to opportunity and address systemic racism and allowing for greater access to housing and opportunity.

Program Summary

ISSUE: Residents experiencing poverty, especially people of color and people who experience discrimination and disproportionate contact with the criminal justice system, have legal and financial barriers that prevent them from accessing housing, employment, education and other opportunities.

PROGRAM GOAL: Legal Services Days work to eliminate or reduce fees, fines and legal barriers to stability and opportunity through access to a legal clinic focused on these issues.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: District Attorneys, Judges, Public Defenders and Social Services agencies collaborate to host six afternoon legal clinics dedicated to reducing or eliminating fees, fines and legal barriers. Clinics are located in East County and North Portland, close to low-income residents and communities of color.

The County will convene an Advisory Group to review policy and systems issues and potential upstream policy solutions to reduce fees, fines, and legal barriers for low income County residents. The Advisory Group will consist of elected staff, the Court system, District Attorneys, Public Defenders, County Human Services, and other stakeholders. The Advisory Group will review and address pre-screening of cases and other programmatic efficiencies that may increase effectiveness and numbers served through a trauma-informed lens.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	# of participants engaged in service	N/A	840	840	870
Outcome	% of participants receiving legal advice or services resulting in barrier reduction	N/A	N/A	100%	100%
Output	# of participants appearing before judge	N/A	540	720	730
Output	Amount of fees and fines waived or reduced	N/A	\$2.7 Million	\$3 Million	\$3.2 Million

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$125,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$125,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: