



**Program #25131E - YFS - Expungement and Legal Services Expansion** FY 2024 Adopted

**Department:** County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** New **Program Offer Stage:** 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. For many renters, a criminal conviction on their record can be a barrier to securing and maintaining stable housing. This offer provides one time only funding to enhance record expungement activities to reduce expungement process wait time and backlogs that currently exist in the District Attorney's office.

**Program Description**

**ISSUE:** Residents experiencing poverty, in particular people of color, experience discrimination and disproportionate contact with the criminal legal system. This systemic racism results in legal and financial barriers that prevent them from accessing housing, employment, education and other opportunities. Recent legislative efforts to address the issue have created an unintentional bottleneck in the DA's office, particularly for people who apply for expungement and who don't have an attorney (pro se applicants).

**PROGRAM GOAL:** Provide a staff attorney who can help expedite the expungement process, with a focus on pre-screening cases for pro se applicants. This prescreening is intended to relevant cases from the backlog and create efficiencies in the current system.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** Provider will work on existing record expungement processes in partnership with the County DA's office. They will meet with pro se expungement applicants to better understand whether they actually qualify for expungement, have completed the correct paperwork and resolve any other issues that may create a delay in the process. The full expungement process includes eligibility analysis, paperwork preparation, court filing, fingerprint processing, and representation at court if required. Creating efficiencies where possible will benefit this entire system and most importantly resolving the backlog that is creating unprecedented delays in expungement hearings.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of individuals served	N/A	N/A	N/A	200
Outcome	Reduce expungement wait time	N/A	N/A	N/A	50%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$140,000</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: