

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs: 25133A
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

Multnomah County is experiencing an unprecedented housing crisis and thousands of low income families are living with severe rent burdens. Over the course of any given year, a percentage of these households will face a crisis that puts them at imminent risk of homelessness. Currently, short term rent assistance coupled with services and flexible client assistance funds is the main intervention to prevent homelessness. This is a local long term rent assistance pilot for families at risk of homelessness. These services are contracted to non-profits. YFS staff support program development through convening providers, providing technical assistance and contract monitoring.

Program Summary

ISSUE: Many very low-income families in Multnomah County are living with severe rent burdens, spending more than 50% of their already limited incomes on rent. Over the course of any given year, a percentage of these households will face a crisis that puts them at imminent risk of homelessness. For some of these families, this is a one-time occurrence, and for others it is part of a recurring cycle of extreme housing instability, followed by homelessness.

PROGRAM GOAL: The goal is to determine how well long term rent assistance improves outcomes for families at risk of homelessness to an extent that they may transition off of a rent subsidy and/or helps families transition to a permanent federal subsidy.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: The program serves a small number of severely rent burdened families at risk of homelessness through the existing Multnomah Stability Initiative (MSI) anti-poverty program, with a local long term voucher instead of short term rent assistance. Long term rent assistance will be coupled with culturally specific or culturally responsive case management using principles of Assertive Engagement, so that participants identify and drive towards goals they set. The program will be evaluated to determine which families are most likely to benefit from long term intervention and whether a long term voucher results in improved outcomes in a variety of domains including housing stability and positive child development. Partnership with the Joint Office of Homeless Services will also create opportunities for replication.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	Number participants receiving long term rent assistance	N/A	8	8	8
Outcome	Percent of families experiencing improvements in self-identified outcomes	N/A	80%	80%	80%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Contractual Services	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$150,000		\$150,000	
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: FY 2020: 25132-20 YFS - Long Term Rent Assistance (LTRA)