

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

**Executive Summary**

Everyone deserves safe and stable housing. Housing Stabilization for Vulnerable Populations provides rent assistance and housing placement to vulnerable households including for people whose housing is vulnerable and are at high risk for homelessness. This offer provides a package of services to help people avoid becoming homeless by providing housing stabilization services, eviction prevention, and ongoing assistance for people with low incomes, including families with children, older adults, and people with disabilities.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** People often need help to maintain stable housing, particularly those who have low or fixed incomes. In 2015, the overall rent growth in Portland was an average of 8-9% - one of the highest in the nation. In 2017, after years of significant rent increases, it has decreased to 2%. In addition, communities of color comprise the majority of renter households and are over-represented within the homeless population.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** Housing Stabilization programs strive to prevent homelessness by keeping people stably housed or helping those who are evicted from stable housing to locate and secure new housing. Housing Stabilization programs help people avoid homelessness.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** This offer includes two primary initiatives:

1) The Short-Term Rent Assistance program (STRA) - The program is a joint effort between Multnomah County, the City of Portland, and Home Forward, each of which contributes funds to the coordinated pool. STRA funds are distributed by local social service agencies and are geared towards households that are currently experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. Funds can be used for rent assistance, mortgage payment, and emergency hotel vouchers. Assistance is available for up to 24 months. These services help vulnerable county residents find homes, maintain housing, avoid homelessness, and work on creating a path to economic stability.

2) The Housing Stability Team - This program is an innovative approach to stabilizing housing for people engaged in County programs. A multi-department and multi-division team works across traditional program silos to provide joint case staffing and coordinated access to holistic wrap-around services. Services include eviction prevention, housing stabilization, Assertive Engagement, landlord retention services, utility payments, short-term rent assistance, and move-in flexible funds.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of households served in STRA	852	800	800	800
Outcome	Percentage of households served who remain in permanent housing six months after exit	86%	90%	90%	90%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$0	\$97,295	\$138,251	\$127,492
Contractual Services	\$2,095,979	\$2,069,903	\$1,864,969	\$1,868,387
Materials & Supplies	\$6,958	\$751	\$7,531	\$11
Internal Services	\$11,736	\$43,480	\$21,653	\$21,885
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$2,114,673</b>	<b>\$2,211,429</b>	<b>\$2,032,404</b>	<b>\$2,017,775</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$4,326,102</b>		<b>\$4,050,179</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.97	0.74	1.09

Program Revenues				
Indirect for Dept. Admin	\$23,719	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$2,320,372	\$0	\$2,017,775
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$23,719</b>	<b>\$2,320,372</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,017,775</b>

Explanation of Revenues

\$1,748,881 - OHCS D Emergency Housing Assistance  
 \$121,653 - State of Oregon Elderly Rent Assistance  
 \$96,267 - OHCS D Housing Stabilization Program  
 \$50,974 - OHCS D Low Income Rental Housing Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 25133-19 YFS - Housing Stabilization for Vulnerable Populations (HSVP)

OHCS D Emergency Housing Assistance decreased by \$0.3M.