

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs: 25133B, 25132
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 supports 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 program offer represents two program areas.

1. Short-Term Rent Assistance program (STRA) is a joint effort between Multnomah County, the City of Portland, and Home Forward. Each organization contributes funds to a coordinated pool of STRA dollars. STRA funds are allocated to 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. Housing Stability Team provides supports to stabilize housing for people engaged in County programs. Services include eviction prevention, housing stabilization, Assertive Engagement case management, landlord retention services, utility payments, short-term rent assistance, and move-in flexible funds. For FY2021 this program will be scaled back and focus on households who are at 80% of Area Median Income, due to new funding requirements.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | FY19 Actual | FY20 Budgeted | FY20 Estimate | FY21 Offer |
|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output | Number of households served in STRA | 722 | 784 | 784 | 784 |
| Outcome | Percentage of households served who remain in permanent housing six months after exit | 98% | 90% | 90% | 90% |

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Adopted General Fund | Adopted Other Funds | Requested General Fund | Requested Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2020 | 2020 | 2021 | 2021 |
| Personnel | \$70,866 | \$89,348 | \$103,071 | \$67,089 |
| Contractual Services | \$1,858,119 | \$1,781,747 | \$898,873 | \$2,192,199 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$7,531 | \$11 | \$15,700 | \$0 |
| Internal Services | \$21,653 | \$21,885 | \$16,058 | \$8,896 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$1,958,169 | \$1,892,991 | \$1,033,702 | \$2,268,184 |
| Program Total: | \$3,851,160 | | \$3,301,886 | |
| Program FTE | 0.10 | 0.72 | 0.91 | 0.50 |

| Program Revenues | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Intergovernmental | \$0 | \$1,931,135 | \$0 | \$2,268,184 |
| Total Revenue | \$0 | \$1,931,135 | \$0 | \$2,268,184 |

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$8,896 in indirect revenues.
 \$2,112,624 - OHCSO Emergency Housing Assistance
 \$155,560 - State of Oregon Elderly Rent Assistance

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2020: 25133A-20 YFS - Housing Stabilization for Vulnerable Populations (HSVP)

County General Fund \$0.5M was moved to 25130 Family Unification Program. Reduced County General Fund by \$0.5M for the Housing Stability Team. Increased Emergency Housing Assistance funds see FY2020 BudMod DCHS-013-20.