

Division: Youth & Family Services

Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Program Description

The need for rent assistance in our community far outweighs the amount of assistance available and puts vulnerable people at risk of homelessness. The Medicaid Waiver Rent Assistance Program (MWRAP) prevents homelessness for Medicaid members with serious health conditions. Recognizing that stable housing is essential for health, this program leverages Oregon's Medicaid 1115 Waiver funding to provide up to six months of short-term rent and utility assistance. Multnomah County partners with local Coordinated Care Organizations to deliver these critical housing benefits. This program bridges healthcare and human services to keep people housed. Program activities include:

- Application & eligibility support: staff navigate complex Medicaid rules to qualify clients and process paperwork.
- Landlord negotiation: team communicates directly with landlords to halt eviction proceedings while payments are processed.
- Housing case management: staff provide guidance to resolve barriers to housing stability and connect clients to other housing supports.
- Rent & utility payments: the program distributes funds to pay past-due rent, current rent, and utility bills.

This program supports the Youth and Family Services (YFS) Division Outcome of Housing and Economic Stability by stopping the flow of housed individuals into homelessness. By stabilizing housing, MWRAP improves health outcomes and reduces health inequities for low-income Oregonians.

Equity Statement

To ensure access to benefits for all, the Medicaid Waiver Rent Assistance Program (MWRAP) uses culturally responsive and trauma-informed approaches to remove barriers. This includes bilingual staff and access to translation. In partnership with the Youth and Family Services Bienestar de la Familia team, this program provides case management and bilingual application assistance to Medicaid members who speak Spanish or Somali.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,738,147
Contractual Services	\$0	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$20,578,036
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,905
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$22,325,088
Total Expenses:	\$10,000,000		\$22,325,088	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$22,325,088
Total Revenue	\$0	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$22,325,088

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Number of households receiving rent, utilities, or other Medicaid Waiver benefits	N/A	1,200	1,450
Number of active evictions prevented through rent assistance	N/A	500	435