

Division: Youth & Family Services

Program Characteristics: New Request, One-Time-Only Request

Program Description

The Medicaid Waiver Rent Assistance Program (MWRAP) prevents homelessness for Medicaid members with serious health conditions by leveraging Oregon's Medicaid 1115 Waiver funding to provide up to six months of rent and utility assistance. While 11,000 households have applied to date in the county, there are an estimated 11,000-13,000 households who are likely eligible but have not yet applied. There is a high need for rent assistance to prevent eviction for low-income households living in public/affordable housing communities.

This program expands the county's intake team and provides critical eviction prevention via the creation of a mobile in-reach team for households living in Home Forward public housing complexes. It also expands a new partnership between the MWRAP team and the Multnomah County Health Department's Behavioral Health Division to help stabilize program and recovery housing. Key activities include:

- Outreach and on-site service at Home Forward properties
- Application & eligibility support: navigating complex Medicaid rules to qualify clients and process paperwork.
- Landlord negotiation: communicating directly with landlords to halt eviction proceedings while payments are processed.
- Housing case management: providing guidance to resolve barriers to housing stability and connect clients to supports.
- Rent & utility payments: distributing 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.

Equity Statement

To ensure access to benefits for all, MWRAP uses culturally responsive and trauma-informed approaches to remove barriers. This includes bilingual staff and access to translation. The In-Reach Team works in housing communities to reach households impacted by poverty and to address disparities in eviction.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$323,628
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$206,000
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,372
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$565,000
Total Expenses:	\$0		\$565,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Number of households receiving rent, utilities, or other Medicaid Waiver benefits	N/A	N/A	1,000
Number of Home Forward housing complexes served	N/A	N/A	6