

Program #25134 - YFS - Fair Housing Testing FY 2024 Proposed

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Fair housing audit testing is a tool used to gauge housing discrimination. Locally, the City of Portland funds testing within city limits but Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale and Wood Village are outside the boundaries. This program will extend similar testing to areas in Multnomah County. It will provide insights into housing discrimination experienced by those classified as 'protected class' by the Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 considers protected classes to include discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, sex (and as amended) handicap and family status. The results can inform policies and ensure we can identify who is experiencing it, by whom, and that we end housing discrimination.

Program Description

ISSUE: Discrimination continues to prevent equal access to housing opportunities. Fair housing testing is a tool used to detect discrimination in the housing market. To test for discrimination, people from different backgrounds (different races, ages, abilities, etc.) pretend they will rent or buy a home. They document what information they are given by landlords, the bank, etc. Since the 'testers' have different backgrounds (race, age, ability, etc.) we can compare the information, services and treatment people in protected classes received to what those in non-protected classes received and look for patterns of different treatment in the housing market.

PROGRAM GOAL: Build on the City's fair housing testing and expand testing to include East Multnomah County, including Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale and Wood Village.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: This program will fund fair housing testing in East Multnomah County to better understand the level of discrimination in the housing market. The results can inform policies that work to eliminate and prevent housing discrimination.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | FY22 Actual | FY23 Budgeted | FY23 Estimate | FY24 Offer |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output | Number of fair housing tests conducted in East Multnomah County | 15 | 75 | 70 | 70 |
| Outcome | Number of alleged housing discrimination investigations, advocacy & support conducted | 10 | 55 | 25 | 25 |
| Output | Number of Fair Housing training and outreach events for direct service staff | 11 | 15 | 10 | 10 |

Performance Measures Descriptions

Outputs for FY22 were low due to late program start up and staffing capacity. Outputs for FY24 have been updated to better reflect contracted program performance.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Adopted General Fund | Adopted Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2023 | 2023 | 2024 | 2024 |
| Contractual Services | \$110,000 | \$0 | \$117,749 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF | \$110,000 | \$0 | \$117,749 | \$0 |
| Program Total: | \$110,000 | | \$117,749 | |
| 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 2023: 25134 YFS - Fair Housing Testing