

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** One-Time-Only Request

**Executive Summary**

The County's current rental climate continues to be difficult for many residents. A combination of high rents, rent increases and low vacancies make finding and keeping units challenging for many renters. This offer seeks to identify ways to increase housing stability for renters by aligning renter services and evaluating options for increasing renter protections, particularly in unincorporated parts of Multnomah County.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** Multnomah County is increasingly unaffordable to renters. Oregon's landlord-tenant law, in combination with a patchwork of local ordinances affecting rental properties, make it difficult for renters to understand and exercise their rights, and many renters fear reprisals from landlords if they voice concerns. This issue is particularly impactful in communities of color.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** The goal of the Renters Relations project in year one (FY19) was to identify opportunities that Multnomah County can consider in order to create a better environment for renters in Multnomah County, particularly in unincorporated areas of the County. Activities through aligning services, creating renter protections and ensuring that tenants are educated about programs and their renter's rights in the areas they live.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** In the first year of this program, the project was staffed by 1.0 FTE limited duration Program Specialist. This staff person conducted an analysis of how the County can best support renters, through an array of information gathering and analysis activities. These included:

- cataloging current renter relations and renter protection efforts throughout the County;
- identifying ways to leverage resources and ways to better coordinate existing services;
- intentionally gathering input and experiences from those experiencing the rental crisis focusing on communities of color; and
- developing policy options for the Board of County Commissioners to consider.

In year two this project will be partially funded through October 2019 in order to finalize the policy recommendations for the Board's consideration.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of community based focus groups held*	N/A	6	8	2
Outcome	% of respondents who report they have been displaced due to rent increases or evictions (cause or no-cause)	N/A	90%	90%	90%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

\*Both measures changed to better capture the work of the project: output - tenant education was not an activity of this position; and outcome - to capture survey respondents who report they have been displaced to to increased rent or evictions.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$110,694	\$0	\$52,763	\$0
Contractual Services	\$14,306	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$87	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$13,020	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$65,870</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>		<b>\$65,870</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	1.00	0.00	0.50	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 25143-19 YFS - Renter Relations