

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

SUN Youth Advocacy Program fosters academic achievement by providing year-round, school-linked, age-appropriate and culturally-specific academic support, case management, family engagement, and skill building groups. In 2015, Youth Advocacy served over 1,700 high-risk youth, 95% of whom identify as ethnic minorities. The Youth Advocacy Program is part of the SUN Service System, a countywide, integrated and coordinated system of care for school-aged youth and their families.

Program Summary

SUN Youth Advocacy Program provides services for 1,700 high-risk youth (ages 6-17) and their families annually to help ensure that youth remain in or return to school. These services are delivered at community and school sites to youth attending regular and/or alternative schools who are at risk of academic failure. Youth Advocacy targets six specific populations of youth and families of color: African American, African Immigrant, Asian Pacific Islander, Latino, Native American and Slavic. Key services include: case management with a focus on academic and life goals; advocacy in disciplinary and educational meetings; skill-building groups; academic support activities such as tutoring, mentoring, reading club, gender-specific groups, and conflict resolution classes; and parent outreach/engagement. Youth advocates work in collaboration with SUN Community Schools and other school personnel towards youth and family success.

Participants in the Youth Advocacy Program are at risk for academic failure due to poor attendance, failing grades, language barriers, family instability and behavioral issues. Ninety-five percent of youth served are youth of color or from a culturally specific community. Advocates support and mentor youth, allowing them to build personal assets leading to school and life success. Advocates engage youth at risk for academic failure in a variety of school and community activities. Youth Advocacy services that meet basic needs allow youth to focus on school and provide their caregivers with the resources to support educational success. Students in the Youth Advocacy program consistently show improvements in school attendance and gain enough credits to be on track to graduate; in addition, 89% of 12th graders served graduated or returned for a 5th year. Increased access to social services and additional learning opportunities outside of, but connected to the classroom, are promising practices for reducing the achievement gap. The Youth Advocacy Program provides this link - in schools and in the community.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY15 Actual	FY16 Purchased	FY16 Estimate	FY17 Offer
Output	# of students (ages 6-18) served	1,737	1,780	1,780	1,780
Outcome	% who consistently attend school (90% or more)*	71%	N/A*	74%	77%
Outcome	% of 9th graders who earn 6 credits and are on target to graduate*	65%	N/A*	65%	65%

Performance Measures Descriptions

* Outcomes are analyzed for students who participate in case management for 45 days or more with at least 15 hours of service; 909 youth participated at this level last year. Outcome measures have changed from last year to align with changes in the SUN Service System evaluation and data availability

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2016	2016	2017	2017
Personnel	\$107,039	\$0	\$110,266	\$0
Contractual Services	\$1,954,256	\$223,776	\$1,954,256	\$350,000
Materials & Supplies	\$1,850	\$0	\$857	\$0
Internal Services	\$10,860	\$16,224	\$11,255	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$2,074,005	\$240,000	\$2,076,634	\$350,000
Program Total:	\$2,314,005		\$2,426,634	
Program FTE	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Indirect for Dept. Admin	\$10,160	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$240,000	\$0	\$350,000
Total Revenue	\$10,160	\$240,000	\$0	\$350,000

Explanation of Revenues

\$350,000 - OCCF-Youth Investment - based on award

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2016: 25149A-16 Social & Support Services for Educational Success