

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs: 25149
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The SUN Youth Advocacy (SYA) Program increases opportunity through youth development and academic achievement supports so that all youth succeed in education. Better outcomes are achieved when youth feel safe, have a sense of belonging and their culture and choices are honored. SUN Youth Advocacy provides year-round, school-linked, and culturally-specific supports to youth and their families, with a focus on students experiencing the greatest educational barriers – those living in poverty and students of color.

Program Summary

ISSUE: Students of color disproportionately face income disparities and systemic racism that impacts their educational opportunities. Research on drop-out prevention and improving educational outcomes for students of color shows that the presence of a positive relationship with a supportive adult (mentoring) and out of school opportunities are effective strategies. Though Multnomah County has the 9th largest Native American population in an urban region in the country, this population is not concentrated in a single area. Since Native American students are dispersed throughout schools in the County rather than concentrated in a few schools, the youth advocacy model is an effective way to provide a culturally-specific service for these students. This funding will provide increased capacity for serving Native American youth in our community.

PROGRAM GOAL: SYA goals include increasing sense of safety, belonging and positive cultural identity, which contribute to the key results of consistent school attendance, credit attainment and graduation for all students, and closing achievement gaps. Research on drop-out prevention and improving educational outcomes for students of color shows that the presence of a positive relationship with a supportive adult (mentoring) and out of school opportunities are effective strategies. Youth Advocacy services that meet basic needs allow youth to focus on school and provide their caregivers with the resources to support educational success. 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.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: Youth advocates support and mentor youth, building a strong supportive relationship with them through intensive individual support. The youth advocacy model seeks to reach out to find the students who want to engage in this service. 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.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY16 Actual	FY17 Purchased	FY17 Estimate	FY18 Offer
Output	Number of youth served	N/A	N/A	N/A	130
Outcome	Percentage who consistently attend school (90% or more)*	N/A	N/A	N/A	80%
Outcome	Percentage of 9th graders who earn 6 credits and are on target to graduate*	N/A	N/A	N/A	65%

Performance Measures Descriptions

*outcomes are analyzed for students who participate for 45 days or more and have 15 hours of service.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2017	2017	2018	2018
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$250,000	
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: