

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

This offer requests \$168,000 County General Fund support to expand, sustain and deepen the Early Kindergarten Transition program. The Early Kindergarten Transition program is a three week summer program to engage entering kindergartners who have had little to no preschool experience, and their parents/caregivers. Each dollar of County investment leverages up to \$3.00 from school districts and other partners.

Program Summary

Research shows a strong correlation between successful kindergarten transition and overall success in elementary school. Locally we know that as many as 60% of entering kindergartners have no prior preschool experience, often making their transition into kindergarten less than smooth. The impact of this is experienced by the child, their parent/caregiver, the kindergarten teacher and other students in the class.

The three-week Early Kindergarten Transition Program at SUN Community Schools offers children and their parent/caregiver the opportunity to learn about school routines, meet school staff, and build their overall comfort level with the elementary school setting. This program is truly a team effort at the school site.

The program provides a kindergarten-like classroom experience for incoming students, taught by a kindergarten teacher at that school. The focus is on developing social-emotional skills such as listening to directions, understanding routines, taking turns and developing familiarity with the elementary school setting. These types of skills are often called executive functions; research about executive functions is showing that these skills are a very important predictor of elementary school success.

Professional parent educators provide parent education for parents/caregivers to orient them to the school expectations, school routines and demonstrate ways parents can support their children at home - to be successful in school. Multnomah County Early Childhood librarians work with parents about how to read to their children, selecting appropriate books and how to connect with library resources.

Operated at SUN Community Schools, the Early Kindergarten Transition program represents layering of important services using the SUN Community School platform. It is a partnership across the school districts, SUN CS Lead Agencies, Portland State University, the SUN Service System and Multnomah County Library to support successful transition into kindergarten. Research by PSU has allowed the Division to adjust the program model to be more effective.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY13 Actual	FY14 Purchased	FY14 Estimate	FY15 Offer
Output	Number of children who participate in summer Early Kindergarten Transition.	-	-	-	640
Outcome	Percent of parents who report comfort with activities they can engage in at home to support their child in school.	-	-	-	90%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2014	2014	2015	2015
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$43,804	\$0
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$124,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$425	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$168,229	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$168,229	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

\$168,229 - County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: