

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

Developing services and activities that support the transition to kindergarten, as well as diverse parent centered family engagement, improves educational success by ensuring a strong start. This builds on research showing that when schools actively engage and connect parents in culturally appropriate ways, their children do better in school. These strategies link partners from early learning and K-12 systems so that all partners are building a smooth transition from early learning through the early grades. During the COVID-19 pandemic, these providers have shifted focus to include more resource connections. These services are contracted to non-profits. YFS staff support program development through convening providers, providing technical assistance and contract monitoring.

Program Summary

ISSUE: High quality early learning opportunities are unaffordable and out of reach for many families in our community. Oregon is the fourth least affordable state when it comes to preschool, and state and federal funding provides preschool for only those families in deepest poverty, reaching only 15 percent of three- and four- year olds in Multnomah County. At the same time, we know that more than 60% of families with children under 5 years old in the County fall below the Self Sufficiency Standard and that there are significant disparities in access to early learning for children of color, children with special needs and children whose home language is not English. During the pandemic many students have experienced distance learning and have yet to be in a classroom. The focus of this program shifted to making sure families of kindergarten children find opportunities to connect with each other as well as prepare families and students to return to limited in person instruction.

PROGRAM GOAL: The goal of Early Learning Family Engagement and Kindergarten Transition supports is to create opportunities for children to successfully transition to kindergarten and to foster diverse family engagement and parent leadership prior to and during the early elementary school years. These supports are built into SUN Community Schools, where staff have trusted relationships and deep connections to the community.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: This program area has two primary components: Early Kindergarten Transition (EKT) and P-3 (Prenatal to 3rd Grade). EKT is a school-based summer program with two core components: 1) Kindergarten class time for children led by a kindergarten teacher and 2) Family engagement activities that include a facilitated parent/caregiver group and other activities intended to promote positive family-school relationships. EKT is focused on children of color and English Language Learners who have not had prior preschool experience so that they will be more successful in school. P-3 funds early parent engagement at 9 SUN Community Schools, connecting families to school before kindergarten and empowering parents to be effective leaders in their school community. During the pandemic P-3 activities include virtual culturally specific parent groups, and virtual Parent Cafe family support groups along with connecting families to resources.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of children who participate in summer Early Kindergarten Transition	775	810	739	810
Outcome	Percent of parents who report comfort with activities they can engage in at home to support their child in school.	94%	90%	90%	90%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$191,803	\$40,104	\$72,485	\$47,875
Contractual Services	\$277,639	\$818,389	\$282,914	\$819,764
Materials & Supplies	\$7,699	\$0	\$11,277	\$0
Internal Services	\$29,357	\$3,712	\$43,226	\$6,985
Total GF/non-GF	\$506,498	\$862,205	\$409,902	\$874,624
Program Total:	\$1,368,703		\$1,284,526	
Program FTE	1.57	0.43	0.60	0.40

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$75,535	\$0	\$75,535
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$774,564	\$0	\$799,089
Total Revenue	\$0	\$850,099	\$0	\$874,624

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$6,985 in indirect revenues.
 \$739,667 - Kindergarten Innovation Grant
 \$75,535 - Portland Public Schools SUN Community School Support
 \$36,272 - Untied Way Ready for School
 \$23,150 - United Way Early Learning

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 25152 YFS - Early Learning Family Engagement and Kindergarten Transition
 As part of the 2% County Constraint exercise the 1.00 FTE Vacant Program Specialist Senior position was eliminated.