

Program #25152A - Early Kindergarten Transition Program 2/19/2015

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

The Early Kindergarten Transition (EKT) 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 of investments 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 54% of entering kindergartners enter elementary school not prepared to be successful. The transition into kindergarten can therefore be 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, now in its fourth year, 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. The program provides a kindergarten-like classroom experience for incoming students, taught by a kindergarten teacher at that school. The program specifically targets children of color and English Language Learners who have not had a prior preschool experience. The aim is to develop social-emotional skills such as listening to directions, understanding routines, taking turns and developing familiarity with the elementary school setting. 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, in order 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.

Over each of the past four years the number of SUN Community School sites who offer EKT has grown, due largely to school district investment in expansion as they increasingly see the value of this program for their incoming kindergartners and parents/caregivers. In Fiscal Year 2015 (summer 2014), 32 SUN Community Schools ran a summer EKT program; 638 children and 508 parents/caregivers participated. The Early Kindergarten Transition program represents layering (or deepening) of social service supports using the SUN Community School platform. It is a partnership across the school districts, SUN CS Lead Agencies, Portland State University (PSU), the SUN Service System and Multnomah County Library to support successful transition into kindergarten. Research by PSU has fostered a continuous improvement approach to both study the program elements during its implementation and make adjustments to the program model in the subsequent year to be more effective. This practice has been utilized for each year of EKT's implementation.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output	Number of children who participate in summer Early Kindergarten Transition.	408	640	640	640
Outcome	Percent of parents who report comfort with activities they can engage in at home to support their child in school.	94%	90%	95%	90%

Performance Measures Descriptions

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Personnel	\$44,051	\$0	\$92,965	\$0
Contractual Services	\$124,000	\$0	\$126,728	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$425	\$0	\$100	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$10,860	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$168,476	\$0	\$230,653	\$0
Program Total:	\$168,476		\$230,653	
Program FTE	0.50	0.00	1.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2015: 25152 Early Kindergarten Transition – Expand, sustain & deepen
 Staffing increased by a .50FTE Program Specialist position transferred from PO #25145 - SUN Community Schools