

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
Related Programs: 25152A
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This offer requests \$85,000 County General Funds to expand the number of SUN Community School sites that offer the Early Kindergarten Transition (EKT) program, and to deepen the culturally-specific approaches used prior to and during programming. 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

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. It is not intended to replace a full preschool experience, and it aligns with the Oregon Department of Education’s Early Learning goal that “children are supported to enter school ready to succeed”. For children who have not had this type of support prior to entering kindergarten, this opportunity offers a glide path into the elementary school environment. 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 focus is on developing 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 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.

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 recognize the value of this program for their incoming kindergartners and parents/caregivers. The summer of 2014 experienced the largest growth to date – from 21 SUN CS sites to 32 – thanks to School District and county investment. This funding request will add another 8 sites and will mean that 70% of SUN elementary and K-8 schools will host the program, and all of the SUN elementary sites in East County will have the program. We anticipate growth in the number of school sites who offer EKT as the number of SUN Community Schools also grows. Evaluation from the Portland State University’s on-site evaluation provide real-time data that guides program improvements to grow effectiveness. The request for FY16 reflects these learnings as funding to expand culturally specific parent outreach and engagement both prior to the program (via culturally-specific outreach, materials and translation) and during the program’s operation (on-site interpreters and culturally-specific supplies for families).

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	-	-	-	160
Outcome	Percent of parents who report comfort with activities they can engage in at home to support their children in school	-	-	-	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
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$85,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$85,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$85,000	
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: