

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education, Out of Target

Executive Summary

This offer requests \$464,000 in ongoing County General Fund to support attendance advocates at select SUN Community School sites to respond to high chronic absence rates. Attendance advocates will work intensively with 300 students and their parents to address barriers to attendance and engagement in school. The advocates are part of the integrated Communities Supporting Youth Collaborative effort and the program leverages resources from the All Hands Raised Partnership, the six SUN partner school districts and Oregon Department of Human Services.

Program Summary

Nearly one in four Multnomah County students is chronically absent (attending fewer than 90% of school days), a critical tipping point that predicts academic struggles, disconnection from school and ultimately a severed path to family-sustaining employment. Chronic absenteeism, which disproportionately affects poor students and students of color, helps drive Multnomah County's graduation below the Oregon average, which itself is the fourth lowest graduation rate in the nation. Family and student stability, health, and access to services are critical to ensuring consistent attendance. An integrated approach linking school-based planning and early warning systems with targeted outreach and supports for high-risk students and families has demonstrated results both locally and nationally.

This offer provides funding for attendance advocates to work with students who have severe chronic absence rates and their families, who experience multiple challenges including food instability, homelessness, limited parenting skills, limited life skills, unemployment, and so forth. Six advocates will work at 10- 12 SUN CS sites including the six attendance demonstration sites for the Communities Supporting Youth Collaborative, and an additional 4-6 sites identified as having the highest chronic absence rates in the County. The proposed initiative builds on proven strategies and an existing school-based infrastructure by embedding advocates who act as case workers in schools to drive down chronic absenteeism through integrated social service delivery.

A .5 FTE Program Specialist will manage the contracting and program development for these services, as well as ensure alignment and development of partners and resources to support the effort.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY13 Actual	FY14 Purchased	FY14 Estimate	FY15 Offer
Output	Number of students served with intensive attendance supports	-	-	-	300
Outcome	Percent of students served who improve attendance to 95%	-	-	-	80%

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	\$420,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$463,804	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$463,804	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

\$463,804 - County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: