

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Innovative/New Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** One-Time-Only Request

**Executive Summary**

Family of Friends Mentoring matches low-income and at-risk youth with trained adult volunteers for long-term mentoring relationships. Through fun and safe activities in the community, mentors help youth build the social and emotional skills that are linked to academic success and a variety of other positive youth outcomes. Family of Friends Mentoring prioritizes its mentoring services for the growing youth population in East Multnomah County.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** Multnomah County and Oregon have unacceptably low graduation rates. Non-graduating students face poor job prospects. Evidence on cost-effective ways to improve graduation rates is still evolving but generally points to the need to increase adult-student interactions. Mentoring relationships between adults and youth is a proven way to support educational success.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** The program's goal is to improve educational success for students at risk of dropping out. Research shows that children with mentors are less likely to exhibit depressive symptoms, have higher self-esteem and have better attitudes towards school and learning.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** The activities for this program include a partnership with the City of Gresham to support the full implementation of the Family of Friends program in Gresham, focusing on youth in East Multnomah County. This evidence-based program has families, couples and individuals serving as volunteer mentors for vulnerable young people. This program matches mentors with kids from low-income families that want extra support. Mentors commit to weekly visits for at least one year, and staff provide in-depth screening, training and coaching.

Youth are recruited from a variety of organizations, including SUN Community Schools in East County and school resource officers. The program has expanded this outreach to include youth living in the family shelter and with children whose parents are incarcerated. The partnership will create the opportunity for Family of Friends Mentors to engage in training opportunities provided through the Youth and Family Services Division, including: Assertive Engagement, Trauma Informed Practices and Domestic Violence trainings. These activities will strengthen the skill sets of the mentors and the youth-mentor relationship.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of students with mentors	19	12	12	12
Outcome	Percent of adult-youth matches that are successful at one year	75%	80%	80%	80%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Contractual Services	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>		<b>\$25,000</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 25162-19 YFS - Family of Friends Mentoring Project