

Department: Homeless Services Department

Program Contact: Anna Plumb

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Adopted

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Program Description

Alternative shelters are a small but growing component of the current emergency shelter system. Alternative shelters provide a safe environment for individuals who may not be able to access or thrive in traditional shelter settings. Achieving racial equity is a core goal. Programming is designed to end disparate rates of homelessness on the basis of race and ethnicity. Regardless of their size and configuration, all shelters must provide trauma-informed, racially equitable, and culturally responsive programming. Programs are designed to reduce barriers and focus on the immediate health and safety needs of participants. Alternative Shelters generally use individual shelter units in a village style setting rather than relying on a facility (either congregate or motel based) setting.

This program funds six currently operational programs currently serving up to 106 participants in pod shelters per night:

Two 10-unit sites for all adults

19 units for adult women prioritizing those experiencing long-term homelessness

19 units for adult men prioritizing Veterans.

10 units prioritizing adults who identify as LGBTQIA2S+

29 units prioritizing adults experiencing vehicular homelessness

This program offer includes one site in East Multnomah County which is scheduled to open in the spring of 2026.

This program offer funds department staffing to work with organizations who plan to provide alternative shelter. These organizations may have limited experience in service delivery or public contracting. Staff provide enhanced support including planning, site and program development, and contract management.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Number of emergency shelter units	70	235	70	164
Output	Percentage of exits to permanent housing	45%	50%*	34%	30%
Output	Participant BIPOC groups (out of 5) proportionately >= to those among homeless population	0	Yes**	0	5
Outcome	Number of unduplicated participants served	101	N/A***	101	285

Performance Measures Descriptions

*Measure changed from "Percentage of people exiting alternative shelters to transitional and permanent housing" to indicate permanent housing as shelter program participants exit destination. **Measure methodology changed from "BIPOC served in emergency shelter at rate as high or higher than percent of HUD homeless population (Yes/No)" to disaggregate racial/ethnic groups, select a comparison group tailored to the equity metric, and reflect all program participants and whether services are being accessed equitably. ***This is a new measure in FY 2026.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$0	\$914,713	\$0	\$782,498
Contractual Services	\$0	\$6,577,045	\$0	\$6,603,029
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$163
Internal Services	\$0	\$662,232	\$0	\$839,025
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$8,153,990	\$0	\$8,224,715
Program Total:	\$8,153,990		\$8,224,715	
Program FTE	0.00	6.00	0.00	5.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$5,269,408	\$0	\$4,363,983
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$2,871,612	\$0	\$3,860,732
Total Revenue	\$0	\$8,141,020	\$0	\$8,224,715

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$380,920 in indirect revenues.

\$601,675 funding allocated through Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) to maintain Oregon's statewide system of shelters, estimate based on receiving 20% of State funding which follows historical patterns (State)
 \$3,860,732 carryover from the FY 2025 Supportive Housing Services (SHS) allocation to Multnomah County through the SHS Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Metro Regional Government (Local)
 \$1,868,670 of the FY 2026 Supportive Housing Services (SHS) allocation to Multnomah County through the SHS Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Metro Regional Government (Local)
 \$1,893,638 City of Portland General Fund allocation through Multnomah County's IGA with the City of Portland (Local)

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 30202 Safety off the Streets - Alternative Shelter for Adults

The year-over-year increase for shelter operations previously budgeted in Safety off the Streets - Motel Shelters (30209). This change was made to allow for greater visibility into the investments being made in shelter operations specifically designed for alternative shelter. Additionally, this offer reflects anticipated openings of new alternative shelter sites. This program offer will include a reorganization of 1.00 FTE Program Specialist Senior and 3.00 FTE Program Specialist. Additionally, this offer reflects a reduction of 1.00 FTE Program Specialist Senior.

This program was impacted by the following Board amendments:

BCC Amendment 9 - decreasing by \$188,491; BCC Amendment 8 - decreasing by \$124,000; BCC Amendment 40 - decreasing by \$240,000; BCC Amendment 5 - decreasing by \$44,472; BCC Amendment 11 - decreasing by \$235,528