

Department: Joint Office of Homeless Services **Program Contact:** Daniel Field
Program Offer Type: Operating **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS) maintains emergency shelter for the four systems of care (adults, youth, families, and survivors of domestic violence). This program offer funds the Youth system's Access Center, supporting the Access Center's efforts in connecting youth with a comprehensive range of services and supports through shelter and day programs, addressing the unique needs of the youth population and ensuring access to the necessary support. The Access Center provides immediate and low-barrier access to crisis and short-term shelter options and day programs. The center provides 24-hour coordinated access to screening, crisis intervention, and basic needs services. In FY 2025, this program offer includes an additional 25 units of culturally specific shelter as part of the Community Shelter Strategy.

Program Description

The Homeless Youth Continuum (HYC) is a collaborative and coordinated system consisting of four nonprofit agencies, including a culturally specific agency. Its goal is to provide a comprehensive range of services to youth up to age 25 who are experiencing homelessness. These services include screening, crisis intervention, safety services, shelter, engagement, housing, education, employment, pregnancy and parenting support, mental health and addictions support, and health services.

Homeless youth are especially vulnerable as they navigate the challenges of living on the streets. Many of them have had previous involvement with the Department of Human Services (DHS) or the Juvenile Justice system, and a significant number have also experienced complex trauma. Additionally, around 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQIA2S+.

To ensure the well-being of these youth, it is vital to have a 24-hour safety net in place. The HYC provides a centralized Access Center where screening is conducted by mobile and stationary staff. These staff members determine eligibility and refer the youth to appropriate HYC programs or other systems of care. Emergency shelter is available at a downtown facility that can accommodate up to 60 individuals, with capacity increasing to 70 during the winter months. Youth residing in emergency shelters have access to meals, hygiene resources, information/referral services, and case management.

Day Programs are offered at two locations and provide meals, hygiene resources, computer access, transportation assistance, service needs assessment, and opportunities for further engagement with the system.

The HYC service model is based on assertive engagement and follows the principles of Positive Youth Development. It ensures that services are client-directed, strength-based, nonjudgmental, and provide relational continuity. Additionally, all emergency shelters, regardless of size and configuration, must offer trauma-informed, racially equitable, and culturally responsive programming with reduced barriers. The focus is on meeting participants' immediate needs for basic health and safety. Services are integrated with public safety and other service systems to ensure joint planning and coordination in addressing the unique needs of homeless youth.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of youth screened via the Access Center	541	550	560	585
Outcome	Number of youth served in crisis and short-term shelter	340	430	590	505
Output	Number of emergency shelter units	60	60	60	85
Outcome	BIPOC served in emergency shelter at rate as high or higher than percent of HUD homeless population	No*	Yes	No*	Yes

Performance Measures Descriptions

The FY 2024 Estimate reflects additional capacity added through the Metro Supportive Housing Services budget Supplemental. The FY 2025 Offer, includes additional capacity that will be added through the Community Shelter Strategy. *Shelter options for youth experiencing homelessness over age 18 are only available in downtown Portland. BIPOC youth do not feel safe coming downtown in order to access shelter services. The HYC overall serves over 50% as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) youth as many of our non-shelter services are mobile to meet youth where they are. F

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$88,530	\$0	\$92,247
Contractual Services	\$2,232,598	\$0	\$1,994,505	\$2,156,605
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$390
Internal Services	\$0	\$22,522	\$0	\$40,303
Total GF/non-GF	\$2,232,598	\$111,052	\$1,994,505	\$2,289,545
Program Total:	\$2,343,650		\$4,284,050	
Program FTE	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.50

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$111,052	\$0	\$1,771,175
Beginning Working Capital	\$301,810	\$0	\$0	\$518,370
Total Revenue	\$301,810	\$111,052	\$0	\$2,289,545

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$40,303 in indirect revenues. County General fund plus \$132,940 in HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program awarded to Multnomah County. The CoC Program requires a 25 percent match of the awarded grant amount, which is met with Metro Supportive Services, \$518,370 carryover from the FY 2024 Supportive Housing Services (SHS) allocation to Multnomah County through the SHS Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Metro Regional Government, and \$1,638,235 of the FY 2025 Supportive Housing Services (SHS) allocation to Multnomah County through the SHS Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Metro Regional Government.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 30205 Safety off the Streets - Youth Shelter

In FY 2025, this program offer includes an additional 25 units of culturally specific shelter as part of the FY 2025 - FY 2026 Community Shelter Strategy.