

Department: Joint Office of Homeless Services **Program Contact:** Shannon Singleton
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

In March of 2020, following public health guidance, the Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS) took immediate steps to limit the spread of COVID-19 within the homeless population and otherwise mitigate impacts of the pandemic on those experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. These activities included operating physical distancing shelters and enhanced safety on the streets supplies and outreach. With the ongoing need for expanded shelter capacity, this program offer funds the continuation of four leased motel shelters and a congregate shelter site. Additionally, with the need for continued supports for those living unsheltered, this program offer also funds a continuation of enhanced safety on the streets supplies and outreach.

Program Summary

As part of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the JOHS took immediate steps to ensure that all congregate and semi-congregate shelters within the shelter system provided necessary physical separation, hygiene, and cleaning practices for occupancy, sleeping, eating, and access to services. Initial COVID-19 response efforts in FY 2020 included decompressing the congregate shelter system to allow for physical distancing by expanding the number of congregate sites and establishing non-congregate motel shelters. This prevented physical distancing requirements from resulting in a reduction of overall system capacity. With continued pandemic-related impacts on the homeless services system, and the pressing need for expanded shelter capacity, this program maintains a capacity of 200 rooms of motel shelter and 100 beds of congregate shelter. For the duration that funding is available for this program, it will effectively serve as temporarily expanded capacity for the shelter system as congregate shelters return to pre-pandemic density with the relaxation of physical distancing requirements.

Motel shelters offer the safety of a fully supported motel room that opens to the outdoors. The rooms are supported with basic amenities, including private bathroom and shower, meals, and access to laundry services. There is also 24/7 on-site staffing, in order to be able to routinely check on guests, as well as on-site access to technology and staff to support transitions out of motel shelter and into permanent housing as rapidly as possible.

This program also continues funding for enhanced safety on the streets outreach to assist those who are unsheltered. This includes staffing of an outreach supply center, the stocking of that supply center with personal protective equipment, sanitizing supplies, basic safety supplies (blankets, tarps, sleeping bags, socks, etc.), and water and food items. The supplies center supports both contracted organizations, including those doing focused culturally specific and behavioral health focused outreach, and community volunteer organizations that conduct outreach to the unsheltered population and lack the resources to offer critical health, safety and nutrition resources.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer
Output	Number of year-round emergency shelter beds/rooms*	322	400	400	300
Outcome	Number of unique individuals receiving supports in motel settings	593	1,700	1,320	1,320

Performance Measures Descriptions

*The methodology for this measure has been changed from manual calculation using the best available information for each shelter to the average daily number of beds for each shelter over the course of the year. In FY 2022, this program supported 400 rooms of motel shelter at eight sites. The County and its partners acquired three of those sites (120 rooms) over the course of the pandemic. In FY 2023, ongoing funding for those sites is budgeted in 30209, which is why the FY 2023 Output offer is lower. The low FY 2021 Outcome is due to higher lengths of stay.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$263,000
Contractual Services	\$0	\$5,100,000	\$0	\$9,417,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,459,300
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$382,700
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$5,100,000	\$0	\$16,522,000
Program Total:	\$5,100,000		\$16,522,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$5,100,000	\$0	\$16,522,000
Total Revenue	\$0	\$5,100,000	\$0	\$16,522,000

Explanation of Revenues

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Direct County Funding \$8,261,000
 American Rescue Plan (ARP) through City of Portland \$8,261,000

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 30900 ARP - COVID-19 Emergency Response - Ongoing Operations

This program provides core services supporting people in our care. In the FY 2022 Adopted budget, this program was funded across two COVID-19 Emergency Response program offers, 30900 and 30090, which when combined amounted to \$20.4 million. In addition, \$5.1 million of ARP funds from the City of Portland were budgeted after adoption. When combined, this program was funded with \$25.4 million in FY 2022 and supported 400 rooms of motel shelter at eight sites. The County and its partners acquired three of those sites (120 rooms) over the course of the pandemic. Those assets, the ongoing funding for which is budgeted in 30209 using Metro Supportive Housing Services Measuring funding, will provide ongoing motel shelter capacity for the system.