



Program #30905 - ARP - COVID-19 Emergency Response - Outdoor Physical Distancing Shelters & Safe Rest Villages FY 2024 Proposed

Department: Joint Office of Homeless Services **Program Contact:** Joshua Bates
Program Offer Type: Existing **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

In FY 2022, as an element of the emergency response to COVID-19, in partnership with the City of Portland, three emergency outdoor shelters were established for people experiencing homelessness. As part of the City's FY 2023 budgeting process, the City allocated American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds for the continuation of operations at two of the existing emergency outdoor shelter sites, as well as additional Safe Rest Village sites, as part of the broader COVID-19 homeless services recovery strategy.

Program Description

In March 2020, following public health guidance, the Joint Office of Homeless Services took immediate steps to limit the spread of COVID-19 within the population of people experiencing homelessness and otherwise mitigate impacts of the pandemic on those experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness. In FY 2021, the City of Portland and Multnomah County worked quickly to expand non-congregate shelter options for people experiencing homelessness. As part of this response, the jurisdictions created three emergency outdoor shelters to keep people experiencing homelessness safe and socially distant. In FY 2022, two of the three sites have been relocated to longer-term sites, and one was decommissioned. Starting in FY 2022, the sites became the operational responsibility of a Joint Office contractor. The sites are each outfitted with prefabricated, insulated hard wall pallet shelters with beds, climate controls, safety features, and electricity, providing approximately 73 residents each night with food, clean water, sanitation, social service navigation, mental health supports, and more. One of the existing sites was designed to specifically serve members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community and another is prioritized to the needs of Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC).

In FY 2024, City funds will be used by the Joint Office to continue operations of the sleeping pods at the Queer Affinity and BIPOC outdoor shelters. This Program Offer also includes funding to support staff capacity in the Joint Office of Homeless Services to continue work on the expansion of alternative shelter options.

In addition to funding the continued operations of these two existing outdoor physical distancing shelters, this program offer funds the operations of the planned six Safe Rest Villages with up to 320 sleeping pods. These physical distancing shelters will be operated by JOHS contractors and offer immediate safety off the streets for people living in encampments. Each Safe Rest Village (SRV) will provide individual sleeping structures, common area structures for gathering, eating, and hygiene, and provide wrap-around support services to assist people to transition to permanent housing. There will be a particular focus on connecting people to needed behavioral health resources.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of emergency alternative shelter beds	N/A	393	273	393
Outcome	Overrepresented BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ supported at a rate as high or higher than percent of population	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Outcome	Number of people sheltered in existing outdoor physical distancing shelters*	153	100	300	780

Performance Measures Descriptions

*These sites are transitional in nature, anticipate longer stays, and the ongoing effects of the pandemic limit anticipated move-outs to housing

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The Joint Office of Homeless Services is authorized by an Intergovernmental Agreement between Multnomah County and the City of Portland.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$0	\$538,000	\$0	\$406,412
Contractual Services	\$0	\$3,173,333	\$0	\$14,458,500
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$3,711,333	\$0	\$14,864,912
Program Total:	\$3,711,333		\$14,864,912	
Program FTE	0.00	4.00	0.00	3.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$3,711,333	\$0	\$14,864,912
Total Revenue	\$0	\$3,711,333	\$0	\$14,864,912

Explanation of Revenues

\$14,864,912 American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding through the City of Portland

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 30905 ARP - COVID-19 Emergency Response - Outdoor Physical Distancing

This program provides core services supporting people in our care.