

Program #40048 - Community Epidemiology

Program Contact: Dr. Julie Maher

FY 2024 Adopted

Department: Health Department

Program Offer Type: Program Offer Stage: Adopted Existing

Related Programs: 40096A

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Program Design and Evaluation Services (PDES) performs the public health foundational role of assessment and epidemiology. PDES collaborates with partners to determine the magnitude of disease, disorder, and injury burden among community populations; identify the determinants of health and disease; evaluate the impact of public health interventions; and assess the status of health equity to guide decisions made by public health leaders and programs, policy makers, clinicians, and community. Key components of PDES' approach are working to engage with community partners to make meaning of the data.

Program Description

PDES is an applied public health research, evaluation, and epidemiology unit shared between the Health Department's Public Health Division (PHD) and the Oregon Health Authority, PDES includes PHD's Community Epidemiology Services (CES) team. CES fulfills a unique and required governmental public health role by collecting and analyzing programmatic, population health, and environmental data to prevent disease, and promote and protect the health of county residents. CES works closely with the Communicable Disease Services program to provide outbreak response through data analysis support, statistical modeling, and standardized investigative guidelines. CES has been instrumental in analyzing COVID-19 data to inform interventions and policy and developing best practices for accurately and equitably assessing COVID-19 data by race/ethnicity. CES also provides assessment and epidemiological services across PHD, including the areas of chronic disease, violence and injury, parent/child health, environmental exposures, social determinants of health, and health equity. Key CES functions include: 1) Providing support in quantitative and qualitative methods; traditional epidemiological analysis; social epidemiology; and equity-focused and trauma-informed methods in research, evaluation, and data management. 2) Informing program and policy through reports on population and health system data to support program development, strategic planning, resource allocation, decision-making, and community priorities (including communitybased participatory research). 3) Disseminating analytic findings through data reports; peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts; policy briefs; web-based reports and platforms, such as the interactive Regional COVID-19 Data Dashboard; and presentations to County and State leadership, programs, and community partners. 4) Providing leadership across PHD in using data to assess racial/ethnic and other health disparities in collaboration with community partners. 5) Developing and implementing decolonizing data methods and working with community partners to make meaning of data. In addition to this work of their CES team, PDES secures about \$4 million annually in grants and contracts to provide program and policy evaluation services to the county PHD, OHA and other agencies, and to conduct public health research projects on key emerging issues. PDES evaluates whether PHD programs and policies are effective, collaborating with partners to identify areas for improvement and highlight successes (e.g., Healthy Birth Initiative, REACH, and STRYVE).

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer			
Output	# of data-related community collaborations that involve all partners and combine data with action	13	9	16	9			
Outcome	# of reports monitoring health status through surveillance, assessment. & community engagement	50	9	26	9			
Outcome	# of analytic and reporting platforms to monitor COVID responses and health status of vulnerable populations	27	7	32	N/A			
Outcome	# of dissemination products (presentations, briefs, reports, manuscripts) created for PDES evaluation	N/A	N/A	N/A	20			

Performance Measures Descriptions

The calculated performance measures for FY22 and FY23 include the products from the Communicable Disease team because during COVID-19 we used a hybrid work model; hence, the measures are higher than expected. The performance measure offers for FY24 do not include the Communicable Disease team products. A performance measure was added for FY24; that measure is for PDES evaluation contracts and research grants done outside the CES team.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 431.413 - Powers and Duties of Local Public Health Departments: (a) Administer and enforce ORS 431.001-431.550 and 431.990. Of these required ORS-defined duties, this program administers key elements of ORS 431.132: Assessment and Epidemiology.

Program Design and Evaluation Services (PDES) is primarily grant and contract funded, and program continuation is required by those grants and contracts.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$1,242,378	\$221,229	\$1,221,894	\$142,450
Materials & Supplies	\$10,840	\$2,480	\$19,435	\$3,392
Internal Services	\$111,468	\$42,301	\$118,340	\$31,767
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,364,686	\$266,010	\$1,359,669	\$177,609
Program Total:	\$1,630,696		\$1,537,278	
Program FTE	7.17	1.48	6.85	0.82

Program Revenues							
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$266,010	\$0	\$177,609			
Total Revenue	\$0	\$266,010	\$0	\$177,609			

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$19,901 in indirect revenues. State - \$177,609 - Public Health Modernization

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 40048 Community Epidemiology

The Communicable Epidemiology Services (CES) team joined Program Design and Evaluation Services during FY23.