

**Program #40096B - Suicide Prevention** 3/4/2020

**Department:** Health Department **Program Contact:** Rachael Banks  
**Program Offer Type:** Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** Out of Target

**Executive Summary**

The Public Health Office of the Director, as the local public health authority (LPHA), has the statutory responsibility to lead the public health system and report to the Board of Health (BOH). The LPHA and BOH collaborate with the local mental health authority (LMHA) to ensure policies, systems, and programs promote and protect the health of, and prevent disease for, all residents and diverse communities. The addition of a Suicide Prevention Coordinator will enhance efforts to collect and analyze suicide data and perform psychological autopsies across the lifespan of Multnomah County residents. This work will support the LPHA, LMHA, and BOH in better understanding what is driving suicides and the best policies and practices to prevent them from happening.

**Program Summary**

The Public Health Office of the Director (LPHA) works closely with the Mental Health and Addictions Services Division (LMHA) to support the Multnomah County Board of Health (BOH) in its authority and responsibility to set health policy for the county by identifying pressing public health issues through data, community wisdom, and promising practices. This coordination results in policy and systems level changes that reduce health disparities in the leading causes of preventable death. A current priority under the BOH's injury prevention focus is suicide prevention. To support this priority area, a Suicide Prevention Coordinator will track and understand trends to better understand the scope and depth of completed suicides and inform prevention, intervention, and postvention efforts. The work will include:

- 1) Partnering with the Medical Examiner's office, law enforcement agencies within Multnomah County, and other healthcare entities, including clinics, hospitals, and emergency rooms, to collect and analyze data.
- 2) Performing psychological autopsies to better understand stressors/factors and commonalities/themes that contribute to a completed suicide. Psychological autopsies will be completed in partnership with Mental Health and Addictions Services Division Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) and the Medical Examiner's office to connect with families and significant friends to perform psychological autopsies. They will also work to identify systems that have not met the needs of individuals who have completed suicide and address some of the gaps that cause these issues. Washington County is nationally recognized for its psychological autopsies tool and the Coordinator will work closely with them to develop one for Multnomah County.
- 3) Working closely with the Mental Health and Addictions Services Division Behavioral Health Prevention Coordinator and the Public Health Office of the Director to inform BOH strategy, intervention, and policy options focused on preventing suicides. The Health Department is also requesting funding from the State to supplement the overall scope of work with a specific focus on individuals under 24.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	# of psychological autopsies	NA	NA	NA	25
Outcome	# of suicide prevention policy and/or strategy presentations to the BOH	NA	NA	NA	2

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$62,143	\$0
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$32,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$5,857	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: