

Department: Community Justice

Program Contact: Lisa Lewis

Program Offer Type: Existing

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:
Executive Summary

Strategic Treatment and Engagement Program (STEP) Court is a specialty court designed to serve defendants charged with certain violent felonies, with a goal of reducing criminal offending through therapeutic and interdisciplinary approaches that address addiction and other underlying issues without jeopardizing public safety or due process. This innovative problem-solving court is the first in Oregon specifically designed to target and serve defendants who committed Measure 11 offenses/major person crimes. STEP Court will focus on disparities in the criminal justice system by providing non-prison options for eligible individuals charged with Measure 11 offenses.

Program Description

STEP Court operates under a specialized model to provide court-directed supervision and a wide variety of treatment to violent individuals with substance use, mental health concerns, or cognitive behavioral issues underlying their criminal behavior. This court will follow the problem-solving court model and offer alternative judicial processing for individuals accused of certain violent offenses. The program seeks to reduce both general recidivism and violent crime recidivism using evidence-based approaches, including judicial monitoring and coordination among community and treatment stakeholders. It also follows a process that encourages informed sentencing decision-making and promotes prison diversion if the participant can be safely supervised in the community. STEP Court adheres to professional standards and best practices for specialty court programs.

STEP Court will establish objective screening criteria and include equal opportunities for enrollment and participation. Preliminary demographic information suggests that this problem-solving court will expand and enhance opportunities for Black and African American defendants. Analyzing data will be central to informing future decisions to determine outcome measures by evaluating participant enrollment, retention, and outcomes.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of adults in STEP Court served each year in supervision	NEW	50	60	75
Outcome	Percent of adults in STEP Court NOT convicted of a misd. or felony within 1 year of supervision start date	NEW	80%	60%	75%

Performance Measures Descriptions

STEP Court has promising results, we anticipate serving more individuals in FY 2024.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$0	\$389,538	\$0	\$436,215
Contractual Services	\$0	\$394,884	\$5,500	\$405,167
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$6,312	\$0	\$6,312
Internal Services	\$0	\$59,872	\$0	\$79,958
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$850,606	\$5,500	\$927,652
Program Total:	\$850,606		\$933,152	
Program FTE	0.00	3.00	0.00	3.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$850,606	\$0	\$927,652
Total Revenue	\$0	\$850,606	\$0	\$927,652

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$79,958 in indirect revenues.

County General Fund plus:

- 1) \$516,173, which is a portion of Grant in Aid SB1145 funding from State Department of Corrections allocation to Multnomah County per the 2023-2025 Governor's Budget. Funding provides support to county community corrections programs for individuals on parole, probation and post-prison supervision meeting the requirements as authorized by ORS 423.475 to 423.565. FY 2024 budget is 49% allocation for the 1st year of Governor's Biennium Budget.
- 2) \$411,479, OR Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) Specialty Courts Grant Program to fund the Multnomah County the Strategic Treatment and Engagement Program (STEP) Court. STEP Court addresses reducing disparities by targeting and serving Measure 11 (major person-to-person crimes) defendants with the opportunity for non-prison options to positively impact a population that includes a disproportionate number of Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color (BIPOC) individuals. FY 2024 budget assumes the same FY 2023 funding from OR CJC with modification on County's FY 2023 current service level.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 50038 STEP Court Program