

**Department:** Community Justice                                  **Program Contact:** Laura Bisbee  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program                                  **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** In Target

**Executive Summary**

Exposure to parental conflict and the potential loss of a parent through divorce and separation places children at risk for delinquency, teen pregnancy and poor school performance, all of which can lead to a cycle of dysfunction and offending behavior. Family Court Services (FCS) helps keep children safe, parents healthy, families stable and promotes public safety through services to at risk families as they go through separation and divorce.

**Program Summary**

The Parent Education Program (under FCS) provides divorce and parenting information to Multnomah County parents experiencing the major life transition of separation or divorce. Through parent education, mediation, evaluation, information and referral services, FCS stabilizes families involved with the Family Court and plays a critical role in preventing family dysfunction, childhood stress and juvenile delinquency.

FCS provides child custody mediation to over 1,000 cases a year and conducts approximately 30 child custody evaluations annually to assist families experiencing high levels of conflict. FCS also produces materials such as the “Birth Through Three” and “Second Chances” handbooks for use by parents and others in need of information relevant to parenting issues. Reducing parental conflict during separation decreases risks for delinquency and teen pregnancy, decreases subsequent litigation and increases children’s meaningful contact with both parents (Wallerstein 1998; Emery 2001; Sarkadi et al. 2008).

FCS is housed in the Downtown Courthouse and services are taking place at East County Courthouse in order to better serve the residents of East County. Parent education and mediation are state mandated services.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Percent of individuals satisfied with parent education classes	90%	90%	93%	90%
Outcome	Percent of custody/parenting time evaluations resulting in settlement	76%	50%	50%	75%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$300,681	\$768,365	\$336,820	\$764,427
Contractual Services	\$0	\$61,349	\$0	\$61,819
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$25,607	\$0	\$23,546
Internal Services	\$0	\$203,684	\$0	\$211,997
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$300,681</b>	<b>\$1,059,005</b>	<b>\$336,820</b>	<b>\$1,061,789</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$1,359,686</b>		<b>\$1,398,609</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	3.09	6.51	2.43	6.37

Program Revenues				
Indirect for Dept. Admin	\$104,882	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$983,172	\$0	\$978,172
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$75,833	\$0	\$83,617
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$104,882</b>	<b>\$1,059,005</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,061,789</b>

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund plus 1) \$773,172 in state funding for conciliation and mediation services assumes continued funding at current level. 2) \$80,000 - Conciliation Services fee collected as part of \$60 marriage license fees of which \$10 is a conciliation services fee. 3) \$5,000 - Child Custody Evaluation Case-Opening Fees. 70% of clients qualify for a waiver. 4) \$120,000 for Parenting Education Program fees. Fee of \$70 is collected per ORS 205.320 and 107.510 to 107.610, and are set by Board Resolution. 5) \$83,617 Access & Visitation grant from US Dept. of Health and Human Services. Funding provides access and visitation services to non-custodial parents who are having difficulty establishing visitation and a legally enforceable parenting plan.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 50052-19 Family Court Services

This program offer cuts a vacant 0.80 FTE Office Assistant 2 in FY 2020. DCJ converted 0.30 to the personnel temporary budget and reduced 0.50 from budget. There are two other support staff to assist in this standalone office.