

Program #15103 - MDT - Child Abuse Unit 2/20/2019

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Chuck Sparks
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

This program serves three primary functions: (1) Prosecute felony crimes involving child victims including homicide, physical abuse, abandonment and neglect, sexual exploitation and sexual assault (rape sodomy, for example) of children where the perpetrator is considered family, (2) Protect vulnerable children through litigating dependency cases in juvenile court; and (3) Coordinate the Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse Team's child protection efforts and develop practices and policies to investigate and prosecute abuse while working to help keep children safe and strengthen families.

Program Summary

The Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team (MDT) is part of a larger team comprised of representatives from law enforcement, public schools, hospitals, courts, health departments, the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Oregon Department of Employment Child Care Division. The team provides services to child victims, minimizes the number of victim interviews, prevents abuse of other potential victims, advances public safety and increases the effectiveness of prosecution of both criminal and dependency cases. A case in the MDT unit is often time and emotion intensive.

Last year, this program prosecuted some of the most troubling homicides (Abusive head Trauma) and serious felony sexual and physical assaults against children in the county. These DDAs respond to child death crime scenes all hours of the day. This team reviews all fatalities which involve a child under the age of 18 years. DDAs also work with DHS and other agencies to protect children who are abused and neglected. They work with our Victim Assistance program to ensure all practices are trauma-informed and mitigate the life-long consequences of child abuse.

Last year, attorneys litigated some of the most high risk/high lethality child protection cases in Juvenile Court. With the court, DHS and other agencies and community partners the office fashions plans that provide protection for the child and opportunities for the parents to mitigate the dangers which brought the child to the attention of the court in the first place, with the goal that the child(ren) and parents to be safe and further parenting skills.

MDT DDAs coordinate discussion and resolution of inter-agency issues, assist in training with agencies involved in child abuse, participate in policy meetings regarding child abuse and neglect, prepare and update the protocols for the larger MDT, and advise community partners on child abuse legal issues. The Senior Deputy District Attorney is on call 24/7 to assist law enforcement, medical personnel and DHS regarding infant deaths and immediate physical and child sexual assaults. The Sr. DDA also supervises the juvenile delinquency DDAs. This program also coordinates the distribution of state Child Abuse Multidisciplinary intervention (CAMI) funds to a variety of local partners on an annual basis for projects/services associated with child abuse intervention.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Number of Dependency/Criminal cases reviewed	264	N/A	291	291
Outcome	Percentage of presumptively prison eligible defendant diverted from prison to community supervision	54.5%	N/A	30.7%	42.6%
Input	Number of Attorneys needed to fulfill program duties	N/A	4	9.27	4

Performance Measures Descriptions

Combining dependency and criminal work, MDT DDA's have between 300-325 children protected on their caseloads each month.
 Reducing child abuse reduces health consequences that persist into adulthood.
 For additional MCDA Budget Information:
<http://mcda.us/wo-content/uploads/2019/02/MCDA-Budget-Informational-Packet-FY-20.pdf>

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 8.660 - Attending court and prosecuting offenses. (1) The district attorney shall attend the terms of all courts having jurisdiction of public offenses within the district attorney's county, and, except as otherwise provided in this section, conduct, on behalf of the state, all prosecutions for such offenses therein.

ORS 8.665 - Prosecuting violations. Upon the issuance of a citation by any person authorized to issue citations for violations, a district attorney shall prosecute the case if it appears that a violation has occurred.

ORS 8.670 - Proceedings before magistrates and grand jury. The district attorney shall institute proceedings before magistrates for the arrest of persons charged with or reasonably suspected of public offenses, when the district attorney has information that any such offense has been committed, and attend upon and advise the grand jury when required.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020
Personnel	\$767,724	\$194,079	\$1,081,368	\$209,188
Contractual Services	\$38,400	\$753,445	\$17,000	\$670,624
Materials & Supplies	\$12,900	\$49,660	\$14,650	\$33,263
Internal Services	\$61,551	\$31,557	\$0	\$38,303
Total GF/non-GF	\$880,575	\$1,028,741	\$1,113,018	\$951,378
Program Total:	\$1,909,316		\$2,064,396	
Program FTE	3.98	2.00	5.00	2.00

Program Revenues				
Indirect for Dept. Admin	\$26,123	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,028,741	\$0	\$951,378
Total Revenue	\$26,123	\$1,028,741	\$0	\$951,378

Explanation of Revenues

\$951,378 Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Grant Program, Oregon Department of Justice/Crime Victims' Services Division, State

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 15103-19 MDT - Child Abuse Unit

Due to county funding constraints, the MDT unit will now be moved to the Juvenile Court Building on 68th and Gleason. MDT will abandon the Multnomah County MDT building located at 102nd and Burnside to realize cost savings to meet budget requirements. This means that the Unit will no longer be co-housed with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and a specialized police unit comprised of detectives from the Portland Police Bureau and the Gresham Police Department (Child Abuse Team). This will reduce coordination, collaboration and communication regarding child abuse investigation and planning. Multnomah County's innovative gold-standard of co-housing prosecutors, LE and DHS has been in existence since the early 1990s. It has served as model to other counties around the state and internationally. Additionally, due to funding loss to our Juvenile Court Trial Unit, the MDT Senior DDA will now also supervise delinquency work.