

Department: Library

Program Contact: Danielle Jones

Program Offer Type: Operating

Program Offer Stage: Proposed

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education

Program Description

Youth Development provides leadership, strategic vision, training and support for Multnomah County Library youth and family initiatives and ensures youth have access to library resources and services. It coordinates and consults with location, regional and outreach staff to provide services and create partnerships that support youth ages 0–18. Services focus on brain development, literacy skills, school readiness, school support, life skills, teen leadership development, connected learning and reading for fun.

ISSUE: Youth Development works with parents, caregivers, educators and community partners to design and deliver robust services that foster early literacy and positive educational and social development. This is in alignment with the library's strategic goals to create public, popular and personal intersections for lifelong learning and to contribute to improved educational outcomes for learners of all ages.

PROGRAM GOAL: This program provides oversight to systemwide youth and teen services and uses targeted universalism to prioritize the needs of nondominant youth and families who are facing marginalization.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: To remove barriers that prevent youth from accessing library resources, Youth Development partners with school districts across Multnomah County to connect students to library services using their student ID number. Youth Development staff are experts in early child development, brain development, and early reading research. They train library staff and community partners so adults can learn to read, talk, sing, play and rhyme with babies, toddlers and preschoolers to develop pre-reading skills needed before entering kindergarten. The program supports families, including emerging readers and tweens, with literacy programming, book groups, family newsletters and by connecting families with community resources. Youth Development supports teens' interests and leadership with strong engagement efforts and by connecting learning to personal interests, supportive relationships and opportunities. Youth Development management helps youth and teen librarians to provide location-specific direction as they serve youth.

RACIAL EQUITY ADVANCEMENT: Staff prioritize BIPOC youth and create pathways for teen voices to lead library programming and initiatives and be heard in library decision-making. Systemwide, Youth Development provides services to youth and families; advocates initiatives that address issues that youth and families face; and is committed to diversity, equity and inclusion.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Number of K–12 students who have access to library resources and services through Library Connect	126,774	110,000	115,000	115,000
Outcome	% of survey respondents who have participated in library services or events for kids	N/A	N/A	25%	25%
Outcome	Number of children and teens who participate in the Summer Reading Program	99,890	95,000	99,890	86,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

The measure regarding participation in service and events for kids is a new measure, introduced during the patron survey redesign.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The budget reflects the passage of Measure 26-143: "Form Library District with permanent rate to fund library services," November 2012 General Election. The district summary states in pertinent part: "If approved, the Multnomah County Library District would be formed with a permanent rate dedicated to library services, operations, books, materials, programs, activities and oversight of the district. Formation of a District would...prevent reductions in services, programs and activities, and hours."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Personnel	\$0	\$1,222,248	\$0	\$1,032,826
Contractual Services	\$0	\$1,101,000	\$0	\$114,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$225,030	\$0	\$262,038
Internal Services	\$0	\$69,572	\$0	\$54,048
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$2,617,850	\$0	\$1,462,912
Program Total:	\$2,617,850		\$1,462,912	
Program FTE	0.00	7.75	0.00	6.25

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$43,277 in indirect revenues.

The revenue allocated to this program offer reflects an intergovernmental service reimbursement from the Library District (99.97%) and resources from the County's Library Fund (0.03%). It represents a prorated share of property taxes (98%), other revenues such as interest earnings, grants, and user charges for services provided to library patrons (2%).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 80006 Youth Development

As part of the overall realignment of staff to meet changing operational needs, post-bond, a number of positions shifted to the Youth Development team in order to consolidate and centralize coordination of services for youth, teens and families. As part of this reorganization, a specialized outreach program called Listos para el Kinder will end, and management of the youth and teen Summer Reading Program moved from Library Events and Reader Service to Youth Development. Several other positions were moved from Youth Development to other teams in the Public Services division.

The change in contractual services is related to grant-funded early learning play installations. In FY 2026, costs will be funded from the Library Special Projects program offer for better tracking of this multi-year capital equipment purchase.