

Division: Public Services

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

Summary: 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.

Program activity: Youth Development removes barriers to Library resources by partnering with Multnomah County school districts, allowing students to use their ID for access. Staff, who are experts in early child and brain development, train Library and community partners in strategies (read, talk, sing, play, and rhyme) to build pre-reading skills in babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. The program supports families, including emerging readers and tweens, with literacy programming, book groups, and connections to community resources. Youth Development also engages teens by connecting learning to personal interests, supportive relationships, and leadership opportunities. Youth Development leadership provides specific direction and support to youth and teen librarians across the library system as they provide services in library locations.

Equity Statement

Staff emphasize serving marginalized youth to reduce barriers and ensure equity, fostering teen leadership in Library programming and decision-making. Systemwide, Youth Development offers inclusive services to youth and families, advocates for relevant initiatives, and supports educators.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Personnel	\$0	\$1,280,429	\$0	\$1,372,710
Contractual Services	\$0	\$119,000	\$0	\$129,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$391,528	\$0	\$338,844
Internal Services	\$0	\$64,398	\$0	\$58,594
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$1,855,355	\$0	\$1,899,148
Total Expenses:	\$1,855,355		\$1,899,148	
Program FTE	0.00	7.75	0.00	7.75
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Number of K-12 students who have access to Library resources and services through Library Connect	120,000	115,000	115,000
Number of children and teens who participate in the Summer Reading Program	102,817	99,890	99,000