

**Department:** Community Services      **Program Contact:** Tim Scott  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:** 81008-17 Elections  
**Program Characteristics:** One-Time-Only Request

**Executive Summary**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, Multnomah County Elections launched the Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program. The program works to identify and remove barriers to voter participation in underserved communities using feedback from several sources including direct outreach to identified communities, organizational and community partnerships and comprehensive results from a statistically valid random sampling survey of voters, online survey, and focus groups.

**Program Summary**

The Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program addresses the Department of Community Services and Elections strategic plans which include as a priority, objectives and strategies to identify and remove barriers to participation in voter registration and election processes, in particular to underrepresented communities. Through the VEO program the division has become an educational resource in voting for new citizens and young voters, has expanded awareness of voter assistance services ensuring citizens with disabilities have a secure and confidential method for voting, and allows the division to adequately reach out to underserved low-income communities throughout Multnomah County. In just a few months, the work of this program has enabled Multnomah County Elections to become a leader in the state in providing equitable access to voting and elections resources and reach out to previously underserved citizens.

The VEO program is primarily supported by the Voter Education and Outreach Specialist position with assistance from Elections on-call, temporary staff to support outreach activities. In FY17 the program will also create a College to County mentorship opportunity for a college student from an underrepresented community. In addition the program specialist has created and continues to create strategic partnerships with other organizational staff and community members to achieve the goals with active support and participation from target communities.

Key components of the FY17 VEO program include: create a Community Advisory Committee to establish a regular forum for public feedback on elections issues; develop, design, translate, and distribute educational voting materials in identified languages to support voting for citizens who speak a language other than English in the home; build a framework to support mandated voting materials in languages other than English in the near future; host, present, or table at 15 outreach events in FY17 focusing on identified underrepresented communities; continue the Voice Your Vote educational workshops at the county's 19 library locations between May - October 2016; partner with youth organizations to provide educational support to youth run voter registration and education events; continue research, analyze feedback, and respond to results from Spring 2016 voter survey, focus groups and involvement and interviews with community leaders; support and improve upon the work of the Voter Assistance Team resources enabling Elections to increase access to confidential and secure voting assistance for citizens with disabilities.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY15 Actual	FY16 Purchased	FY16 Estimate	FY17 Offer
Output	Report of findings and future strategies to engage communities in the election process.	New	Report Complete	Report Complete	Report Complete
Outcome	Field a statistically valid, random sampling survey of voters using the equity lens.	New	Survey Complete	Survey Complete	Not Applicable
Outcome	Create Elections Community Advisory Committee (CAC).	New	New	New	CAC Created

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

In the first year of the program the overall goals were to build a foundation for the program work, establish mechanisms for feedback from the community and evaluate and report out on the effectiveness of those measures. The two performance measures for FY16 reflect that initial startup and evaluation period. For its second year the output measure will again be an annual report of findings and future strategies but the outcome measure will change since the survey will not be repeated this fiscal year. Replacing the survey will be the creation of a Community Advisory Committee.

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

There are currently no firm legal or contractual obligations to undertake this work. However there continues to be significant growth in language communities other than English that continues to be the topic of study and interest at the state level. The work of this program helps prepare Multnomah County to meet any possible future legal requirements should the mandatory thresholds change in Oregon or should the language communities continue to increase in Multnomah County. This program also informs and provides support to the Voter Assistance Teams and does outreach to the disabled community for this federally mandated program.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2016	2016	2017	2017
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$89,800	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$89,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$89,800</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund

## Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2016: 91008B-16 Elections Voter Education & Outreach