

**Department:** Community Services      **Program Contact:** Tim Scott  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested  
**Related Programs:** 91010A-18  
**Program Characteristics:** Out of Target

**Executive Summary**

In FY 2016, Multnomah County Elections launched the Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program. It continued this critical work in FY 2017 with one-time only funding. The program works to identify and remove barriers to voter participation in underserved communities through engagement, education and outreach. The VEO program is informed by direct outreach to underserved communities, organizational and community partnerships, and results from a voter survey, focus groups and mapping voter behavior with demographic data.

**Program Summary**

The Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program addresses the Department of Community Services and Elections strategic plans, which include goals to identify and remove barriers to participation in voter registration and election processes, in particular to underrepresented communities. Through the VEO program, the Elections 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 over a year, the program has enabled Multnomah County Elections to become a state leader in providing equitable access to voting and elections resources for previously underserved citizens.

The VEO program is primarily supported by the VEO Specialist position with assistance from both Elections permanent staff and on-call, temporary staff to support outreach activities. In FY 2017, the program created a College to County mentorship opportunity for a college student from an underrepresented community and will do so again in FY 2018. The program specialist also 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 FY 2018 VEO program include: strengthen in-demand language assistance services by developing, designing, translating and distributing educational voting materials to support voting for citizens who speak a language other than English in the home; continue to build a framework to support mandated voting materials in languages other than English; host, present or table at 15 outreach events focusing on identified underrepresented communities; develop Voter Registration Drive educational workshops for community leaders and organizations; partner with organizations that serve youth to provide educational support to youth- run voter registration and education events; analyze feedback and respond to results from Spring 2016 voter survey, 2016 presidential elections data and interviews with community leaders; and 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	FY16 Actual	FY17 Purchased	FY17 Estimate	FY18 Offer
Output	Number of outreach tabling events focused on identified underrepresented communities	New	New	New	15
Outcome	Number of voter assistance interactions languages other than English for the May 2018 Election	New	New	New	75
Output	Number of media presentations, interviews, articles and press releases made in languages other than English	New	New	New	12

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

In the first two years of the program, a foundation was built and relationships were developed with community organizations, multilingual educational resources and tools were created and voter education workshops were given. The FY 2018 performance measures reflect that the VEO program has demonstrated value within underrepresented communities and that an expectation of equity-based voter education and services from the Elections Division has been set.

## 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 and local level. The work of this program helps prepare Multnomah County to meet any possible future legal requirements should the mandatory thresholds change in Oregon and as 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	2017	2017	2018	2018
Personnel	\$89,800	\$0	\$110,000	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$89,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$110,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$89,800</b>		<b>\$110,000</b>	
Program FTE	1.00	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 2017: 91008C Elections Voter Education & Outreach

This program was funded with OTO funds in FY 2017.