

Program #91010C - Voter Education and Outreach Staffing 2/21/2018

Department: Community Services **Program Contact:** Tim Scott
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

The Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program identifies and removes barriers to voting in underserved communities with engagement, education, and outreach. The VEO is informed by outreach, community partnerships and results from voter input and mapping voter behavior and demographics. VEO efforts continue to make strides with limited staffing; building a foundation through community relationships in FY16, educational resources in 6 languages in FY17 and the opening of an East County service location, the Voting Center Express in FY18. Program #91010C-19 adds a Program

Program Summary

The Program Technician (bilingual preferred) will directly support & contribute to the work of the Voter Education and Outreach (VEO) program within the Elections Division. The position will work under the direction of the program specialist, assisting in voter education activities, attending outreach events, providing language services and staffing the Voting Center Express. The position will support data collection, content and communication development and provide limited administrative support for the program.

The VEO program addresses the DCS and Elections strategic plans which include as a priority, objectives and strategies to increase the inclusion of limited English proficient voters through expanded language access services and resources, increase access to voting services through the Voting Center Express and to identify and remove barriers to participation in voter registration & election processes, for underrepresented communities.

Through the VEO Program, the division has become an educational resource in voting for new citizens and young voters have expanded awareness of voter assistance services ensuring citizens with disabilities have a secure and confidential method for voting and allows the division to reach out to underserved low-income communities throughout the county. Multnomah County Elections is a leader in the state in providing equitable access to voting and elections resources.

Key components of the VEO program that the Program Technician will support include strengthening in-demand language assistance services by conducting outreach, providing customer service and delivering voter services in a language other than English (Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese – Cantonese, Chinese – Mandarin, Russian, or Somali) and continuing to build a framework to support voting for citizens who speak a language other than English in the home. The VEO Program will be able to serve more residents throughout the county tabling at 30 outreach events in FY19 and developing more robust educational resources and organizational support to community groups and organizations interested in increasing civic engagement within diverse communities. VEO staff will be able to continue to support and improve the work of the Voter Assistance Team enabling Elections to increase access to confidential & secure voting assistance for citizens with disabilities.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY17 Actual	FY18 Purchased	FY18 Estimate	FY19 Offer
Output	Number of outreach and education events focused on identified underrepresented communities	New	New	New	30
Outcome	Assistance to voters in languages other than English	New	New	New	75

Performance Measures Descriptions

The performance measures for FY19 reflect that the VEO program has been established successfully, has demonstrated value within underrepresented communities, and that an expectation of equity based voter education and services from the Elections Division has been set. Assistance to voters in languages other than English is for the November 2018 gubernatorial election.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

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 (Help America Vote Act 2002) program.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2018	2018	2019	2019
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$87,352	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$102,352	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$102,352	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

This would be supported by County General Funds.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: