# **Overview** Department of County Human Services



Every person - at every stage in life - has equitable opportunities to thrive. - DCHS North Star

## **-DCHS PRIORITIES**



Quality of Life



Economic Stability





System

## **ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**



# Who We Serve

The Department of County Human Services (DCHS) designs programs, services and funding to provide stability for Multnomah County residents across the lifespan. DCHS strives to not only uplift our community members in times of need – but to invest in innovative, future-oriented approaches to human services that prevent crises, build assets and nurture self-determination within our communities by addressing and redressing the root causes of racism and all other forms of inequity.

In **childhood**, DCHS supports people by improving educational access and support for youth, coaching early childhood education providers, and making sure children have enough to eat in the summer months.

In **adulthood**, DCHS supports people with disabilities who want to live in their own homes, helps people stay in affordable homes, and provides safety and support for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

DCHS supports **older adults** by doing things like helping older veterans navigate the public programs they've earned as part of their service, setting up classes at a senior centers to keep people healthy, and protecting older or disabled people who are potentially being abused.



# Director's Office Department of County Human Services



The vision for the Multnomah County Department of County Human Services (DCHS) is that every person, at every stage of life, will have equitable opportunities to thrive. DCHS supports people across their lifespan, either through (and not limited to) early learning initiatives, intellectual and developmental disability supports, housing and safety programs, or aging services.

In addition to business services and human resource management, the department administration supports each program with equity and inclusion efforts, policy coordination, design and research, strategic communications and other operations needs.



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**Strategic Engagement Team** Tahira Rivera 503-988-4472 tahira.rivera@multco.us **Equity and Inclusion Manager** Dr. Carlos Richard 503-988-4032 carlos.richard@multco.us

#### THE WORK WE DO

#### **Equity & Inclusion**

- Implement strategies and recommendation for the Workforce Equity Strategic Plan (WESP)
- Analyze, examine, and review department program offers to ensure equitable outcomes for the community
- Implement and apply the Equity and Empowerment Lens throughout all levels of the department

#### Multnomah Idea Lab

- The MIL (Multnomah Idea Lab) is charged with seeking approaches at the **intersection of poverty and racism**.
- Using three lines of business equity & human centered collaborative design, critical thinking, and applied research the MIL provides consultancy services to other county colleagues and public jurisdictions that support their work, and works within the community to test new ideas to eliminate the racial wealth gap.

#### Strategic Engagement Team

- Develop communications strategies that resonate with participants, partners, leaders and staff.
- Enhance the **client experience** through use of design, technology, video, web, social media and events.

#### **Quality Improvement Center**

- Coach staff in using the scientific model for improvement to simplify work processes, innovate, and deliver quantifiable results to internal and external customers
- Partner with staff to ensure equity in service access and delivery, and meet or exceed program objectives
- Provide consultation for traumainformed change management strategies

#### **Emergency Management**

- Mass care and shelter for local disasters, emergencies and severe weather.
- Disaster preparadeness strategies

#### **Business Services**

- Ensure **effective and responsible stewardship** of available financial resources
- Provide support through **budgeting**, fiscal planning, contracting and procuring

#### **Human Resources**

- Develop and implement workforce initiatives
- Ensure an equity and empowerment lens is applied to processes from recruitment to retention
- Focus on accountability, competency, customer service, stewardship and collaborative partnerships



Department of County Human Services



Every person should have the freedom to live their life and work towards their goals without being limited by society's barriers, expectations or prejudices. There are no limits to anyone's human potential.

Through the Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Services Division (IDDSD), people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities experience opportunities to grow, develop, enjoy meaningful relationships, get an education, work, create a home of their choice, live safely and fully participate in our communities.

IDDSD provides case management services to connect people with Medicaid-funded residential, in-home and brokerage services. Key strategies include:

- Providing timely and high quality services
- Promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and person-contentedness
- Provide access to training, tools, and support
- Supporting an effective workforce
- Facilitating more streamlined and effective administrative processes

As a lead agency in Multnomah County, IDDSD provides support and services to those in crisis and also in the most challenging and complex cases.

## **PROGRAM AREAS**





#### SERVICE HIGHLIGHT - UNCONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER

Within social service delivery systems, clients who are BIPOC, English language learners, or lowincome, experience increased barriers related to racism, limited healthcare access, and disenfranchisement. These barriers further exacerbate the disproportionate health and economic impacts of COVID-19. In order to mitigate these impacts, IDD used a targeted universalism approach to deliver unconditional cash transfers to our most vulnerable clients in FY 2022.

Research shows that unconditional cash transfers are related to positive economic and psychological outcomes, and the alleviation of the immediate stressors of poverty. Unrestricted cash resources give clients and caregivers more choice in how to spend funds in order to stabilize access to food, shelter, transportation, and other immediate needs related to health, safety, and quality of life. In FY 2022, unconditional cash transfers happened in two waves. A total of **647 clients** received **\$500 Visa Gift Cards** during the first wave. All of these clients identified as BIPOC or English language learners. A total of **1,326 clients** received gift cards during the second wave, with **66%** reporting that they identified as BIPOC and/or English language learners.



## CONTACT

#### **IDDSD Director**

Alexis Alberti 503-988-3648 alexis.alberti@multco.us Intake & Eligibility 503-988-6258 **Abuse Investigations** 855-503-SAFE (7233) IDD Website: multco.us/dd

General Email: idd@multco.us

# Aging, Disability & Veterans



Only when we realize the talents and contributions of all residents, of all ages and abilities, can we move our county forward. The health and well-being of older adults, people with disabilities and Veterans improve when they have social opportunities, can get the help they need quickly and easily, and can fully participate in our community. The Aging, Disability & Veterans Services Division (ADVSD) strives for equity with specialized services for people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ, and people with disabilities.

ADVSD serves as an advocate providing person-centered assistance with Medicaid, SNAP, Veterans benefits and other long-term services and supports. It operates a 24-hour helpline - the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) - as well as a team of Veterans Services Officers. The community accesses services through ADVSD's offices and senior centers and homes. ADVSD is also the county's Area Agency on Aging.

## **PROGRAM AREAS**



**(** 48,131



referrals to County and community partner organizations from the ADRC Helpline.



in retroactive rewards to Veterans working with Veterans Services.

## LOCATIONS



#### CONTACT

#### **ADVSD Director**

Irma Jimenez 503-988-6947 irma.jimenez@multco.us

## Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) 503-988-3646

24-hour information and assistance to seniors, people with disabilities, and caregivers by identifying their needs and linking them with services.

ADVSD Website: multco.us/ads

Veterans Services Office 503-988-VETS (8387)

# Youth & Family



The Youth & Family Services Division breaks down barriers that prevent people from fully realizing their potential. Our services are provided through homes, schools, nonprofits and communities. We connect people and find solutions so children develop, families thrive and people are safe from domestic and sexual violence.

Multnomah County

#### What is the Youth & Family Services Division?

The Youth & Family Services Division and our nonprofit partners support:

- youth and families in the SUN System
- survivors of domestic and sexual violence
- families live in stable homes
- create income stability
- people afford their energy bill
- people access a range of culturally specific and responsive services at Bienestar de la Familia and culturally specific organizations

#### How does the Youth & Family Services Division Make Connections?

- We make it easier for nonprofit partners to combine services to meet a client's need.
- We can help someone in a parenting class also get food or pay the energy bill for their family.
- We convene partners to maximize resources to serve the whole family.

#### **PROGRAM AREAS**





## BUDGET - FY 2023



## CONTACT

**YFS Director** Peggy Samolinski 503-988-7453 peggy.l.samolinski@multco.us **Domestic & Sexual Violence Coordination Office** 503-988-6400 www.multco.us/dv YFS Website: multco.us/dchs



Preschool for All (PFA) connects 3 and 4 year olds in Multnomah County to free, inclusive, culturally responsive preschool experiences.

#### The Preschool for All Plan

The Preschool for All Plan reflects more than two years of engagement with community members including parents, educators, culturally specific organizations, policy makers and early childhood specialists. Preschool for All:

- Creates a mixed-delivery preschool system that includes in-home providers, school districts, centerbased providers, and multi-generational preschool programs
- Allows families to choose the type of preschool experience that is right for their child.
- Increases wages and provides professional development for early educators.

Preschool for All will grow over time, increasing the number of children and families that it serves each year until it is universally available.

All families in Multnomah County will be eligible to apply and families who currently have the least access to high-quality preschool will be prioritized for the first-available slots.

Children who currently experience barriers accessing preschool include Black, Indigenous, and all children of color, children from families experiencing low incomes and children with disabilities, among others.

## **PROGRAM AREAS**

## **Preschool & Early Learning Division**

Leslee Barnes, Director







Workforce Development

# **48**

Number of Preschool For All pilot sites. 677

Number of Preschool For All slots allocated.

# **69%**

Percentage of family applications received where children identified as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color.



## CONTACT

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