

TO: Chair Deborah Kafoury  
Kim Melton, Chief of Staff  
Serena Cruz, Chief Operating Officer  
Christian Elkin, Budget Director

FROM: Mohammad Bader, Department of County Human Services

DATE: February 23, 2022

RE: FY 2023 Budget Submission Transmittal Letter

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## Department Overview

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The Department of County Human Services' long-range vision is guided by the DCHS North Star, which states: ***Every person – at every stage in life – has equitable opportunities to thrive.***

In order to achieve our North Star, we know that we must actively work against systemic racism and socio-economic disparities within our communities by centering racial justice and equity in the work we do. 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.

DCHS is comprised of four divisions, supported by our department administration:

**The Aging, Disability and Veterans Services Division (ADVSD)** supports older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities of all ages by connecting them with benefits and resources, supporting caregivers and providers, investigating potential abuse and by coordinating food and nutrition services, among other functions. In FY 2021: 2,887 Adult Protective Services investigations were completed; \$1.9 million in retroactive rewards were granted to veterans working with Veterans Services; and 48,777 people received Medicaid case management, in-home or facility-based services, medical benefits, or SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

**The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services Division (IDD)** supports community members with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. IDD offers specialized support to high school transition youth, adults and children. Many services

include employment, culturally responsive case management, individualized care planning and coordination, resource referrals and more: in order to increase overall quality of life, promote independence, and support community inclusion for individuals we serve. Each month, IDD serves over 6,600 adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, who speak 43 languages.

**The Youth and Family Services Division (YFS)** supports families and youth in Multnomah County by connecting participants with food and nutrition resources, rent assistance and housing stability programs, domestic and sexual violence services, energy bill and home weatherization help, early childhood supports, education and youth empowerment, and a variety of culturally specific services which support historically underserved communities. In FY 2021: 1,297 domestic violence survivors accessed protection orders through the Gateway Center; 2,849,564 meals were provided to children and families through SUN distribution sites; 19,098 households received energy bill payment support; 477 people received culturally specific mental health or addiction services through Bienestar de la Familia; and over \$2.4 million in legal fees were removed through Legal Services.

**The Preschool and Early Learning Division (PEL)** is the newest division within DCHS, and will serve young children and their families by implementing Multnomah County's Preschool for All program, which through contracted slots with child care providers, will give 3 and 4-year-olds access to free, high-quality, culturally responsive preschool experiences; PFA invests in system supports to build the capacity of child care providers, increase the number of early educators, and outreach to families who currently have the least access to preschool.

**DCHS Department Administration** supports all of our divisions, and includes: DCHS Business Services (Accounting, Contracting and Procurement, Budgeting); Human Resources; Communications; Trauma Informed Practices; Quality Improvement; Racial Justice, Equity, and Inclusion; Policy; HIPAA compliance; legislative advocacy coordination; along with being the hub of our department's innovation planning through the MIL (Multnomah Idea Lab), and other department-wide operational functions.

Outcomes for DCHS services are stronger when people are treated as experts in their own lives. That's why the department takes a trauma-informed and equitable services approach, providing the best opportunity to achieve the department's long-term goals and those of the County more broadly.

In addition to the key goals mentioned, DCHS serves as the Area Agency on Aging, the Community Action Agency, the managing partner for the Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) program, the Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordination Office for the County and City of Portland, and the Community Developmental Disability Program (CDDP) for Multnomah County.

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## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

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The DCHS North Star aligns with the County’s Workforce Equity Strategic Plan (WESP), which guides the equity work for our department and helps us strategically and intentionally uphold our commitment to Inclusively Leading With Race – meaning that we center racial justice while understanding that all forms of oppression intersect and overlap with one another and have a compounding effect on those who hold multiple marginalized identities. For this reason, we are explicit in naming racial justice when framing and implementing the department’s work at all levels.

### Equity for DCHS Consumers:

DCHS strives to incorporate racial justice and equity into all of the department’s programs and services – in addition to programs that specifically serve BIPOC communities. For example, over 64 percent of Youth and Family Services Division funding is contracted out to partner agencies who work in the community, including a wide network of culturally specific organizations. A good illustration of this model is the department’s Rent Assistance funding, where the majority of funds were intentionally distributed to families via culturally specific organizations to address the compounding impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and structural racism.

Another example of how equity is woven into the core functions of DCHS is the implementation of Preschool For All. 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, including Black, Indigenous, and Children of Color. In FY 2023, the Preschool & Early Learning Division will invest additional dollars for Family Connector Organizations, which are culturally specific agencies who are responsible for outreaching to PFA priority populations, and Intermediary Organizations, which support small providers participating in Preschool for All (program offer 25202).

### Equity for the DCHS workforce:

The department is improving its current organizational culture through the Workforce Equity Strategic Plan (WESP). Some examples of internal racial justice and equity initiatives at DCHS include:

- **Equity at My Desk initiative:** The goal of Equity at My Desk is to bring Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) work down from the 50,000 foot level in order to help managers and supervisors incorporate DEI principles into their daily work.
- **Equity Cohort for managers and supervisors:** in FY 2023, this initiative will bring groups of managers and supervisors together for 6-8 weeks to talk about Diversity, Equity and

Inclusion and provide them with the tools and structure necessary to manage the implementation of DEI work.

- **Recruitment, onboarding and retention initiatives:** Several groups within DCHS are working to improve recruitment and onboarding through a racial justice and equity framework.

## Equity in the DCHS budget process:

DCHS centered racial justice and equity in the FY 2023 budgetary decision-making process by asking staff and leadership to consider systemic racial disparities when developing program offers, and by using the Office of Diversity and Equity's FY 2023 Budget Equity Tool.

What this looked like in practice for DCHS is illustrated by the Aging, Disability & Veterans Services Division's budget equity process which involved a small team of data & evaluation specialists meeting with each program within the division to ensure that programs have a racial equity strategy that is clear and data-driven. Programs that lacked clarity were asked to make a plan and implement it for the next fiscal year – and gaps discovered through this racial equity evaluation process were addressed by: working to improve demographic reporting processes; hiring community outreach positions; and by adding language and cultural competency KSAs (knowledge, skill, and ability) to key positions within the division.

The DCHS Equity and Inclusion Manager also reviewed program offers using several equity tools consisting of specific and direct questions to guide the review process, including:

- What kinds of data are available, and how is data being used to inform our decision-making?
- What kinds of community engagement, particularly with BIPOC communities, were utilized in the creation and/or review of the program offer or proposal?
- Who will benefit and/or who will be adversely impacted by our decision?

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## FY 2023 Budget Priorities and Key Issues

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DCHS strives to be a leader in anti-poverty work and economic recovery efforts focused on the needs of Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. To do this we must maintain strong partnerships and collaboration with community-based organizations and other County departments. In alignment with our commitments to system-wide collaboration, racial justice and innovation, DCHS has several key priorities for FY 2023 and beyond:

**Supporting Public Health Efforts:** In collaboration with the Health Department, DCHS is participating in our region's public health response. The Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) team operates the COVID-19 Call Center, which has fielded 57,013 calls and emails from community members about testing, vaccines, and services; the

Bienestar de la Familia program provides culturally-specific Wraparound Services for people isolating or quarantining due to COVID-19; and DCHS staff coordinated vaccinations and testing for homebound community members.

**Preventing Evictions and Increasing Housing Stability:** In 2021, Multnomah County built a new coordination model to meet the unprecedented demand for rent assistance and prevent evictions. A network of over 40 community partners, including legal services in-person community outreach are serving a diverse range of BIPOC communities. In FY 2022 these organizations provided rent assistance to over 6,900 households; 82% of whom had incomes at or below 50% of the Area Median Income. DCHS also responded quickly to the state’s new online portal for rent assistance, supporting 2,912 households and distributing over \$24 million dollars in four months.

**Building Economic Security for Communities of Color:** DCHS is taking the lead in implementing Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) pilot projects to increase household security for BIPOC community members while addressing the impacts of systemic racism and intergenerational poverty. Some exciting examples include the distribution of \$4.5 million to more than 6,000 households who had autonomy over how to spend their allocation, and Direct Client Assistance programs across the department which also follow UCT best practices.

**Responding to Extreme Weather Events and Natural Disasters:** In collaboration with the Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS), Portland Bureau of Emergency Management and Multnomah County Emergency Management, DCHS plays a critical role in our region’s disaster response and mass sheltering efforts during extreme weather events. DCHS promotes a person-centered approach to emergency management – centering racial justice and equity in planning for, responding to and recovering from extreme weather and other emergencies. In addition to sheltering, DCHS has leveraged the day-to-day work for the department’s staff to provide preparedness information and conduct thousands of wellness checks on our most vulnerable consumers during extreme weather events.

**Building the Foundation for Universal Preschool Access:** The Preschool & Early Learning Division is creating the foundation for Preschool for All’s success and ensuring high-quality, inclusive, and culturally affirming preschool slots. Strengthening the key partnerships of Preschool for All, increasing the capacity of preschool providers, and building trust in the community are the primary goals in the second year of implementation. This fiscal year will mark the first Preschool for All slots available for families.

**Becoming an Employer of Choice:** To help guide the long-range vision for DCHS, the department is improving its current organizational culture through the North Star and Pillars, the Sustainable Business Plan (SBP), and the Workforce Equity Strategic Plan

(WESP). The goal is for DCHS to be an employer of choice on the journey to becoming the community’s service provider of choice.

**Strategic Planning:** In FY 2022, the DCHS Leadership Team convened for a series of “Moonshot” work sessions, in order to think collectively and creatively about big-picture strategies that can bring DCHS closer to our North Star. At these sessions, department leadership prioritized several key strategies: developing a community and employee asset building strategy; planning to develop a DCHS mobile access app for consumers; providing holistic, department-wide services to support our communities; and changing the narrative about who is in poverty and why, and the role of government in changing economic and societal conditions.

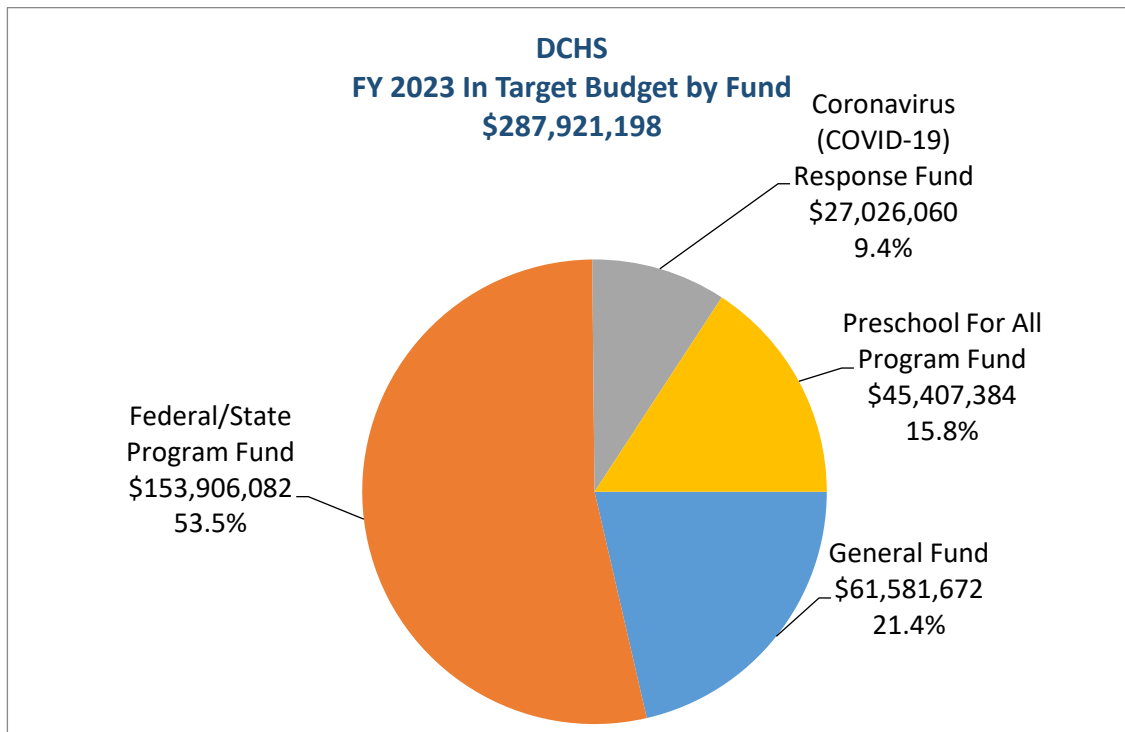
## Budget Overview

The Department of County Human Services budget submission totals \$328,689,436 and 928.40 FTE for FY 2023 for both in and out of target programs. In target programs are funded within the department’s General Fund target allocation or by Other Funds; out of target programs are additional requests not funded within the department’s General Fund target allocation. The submission is detailed in the table below showing the total allocation.

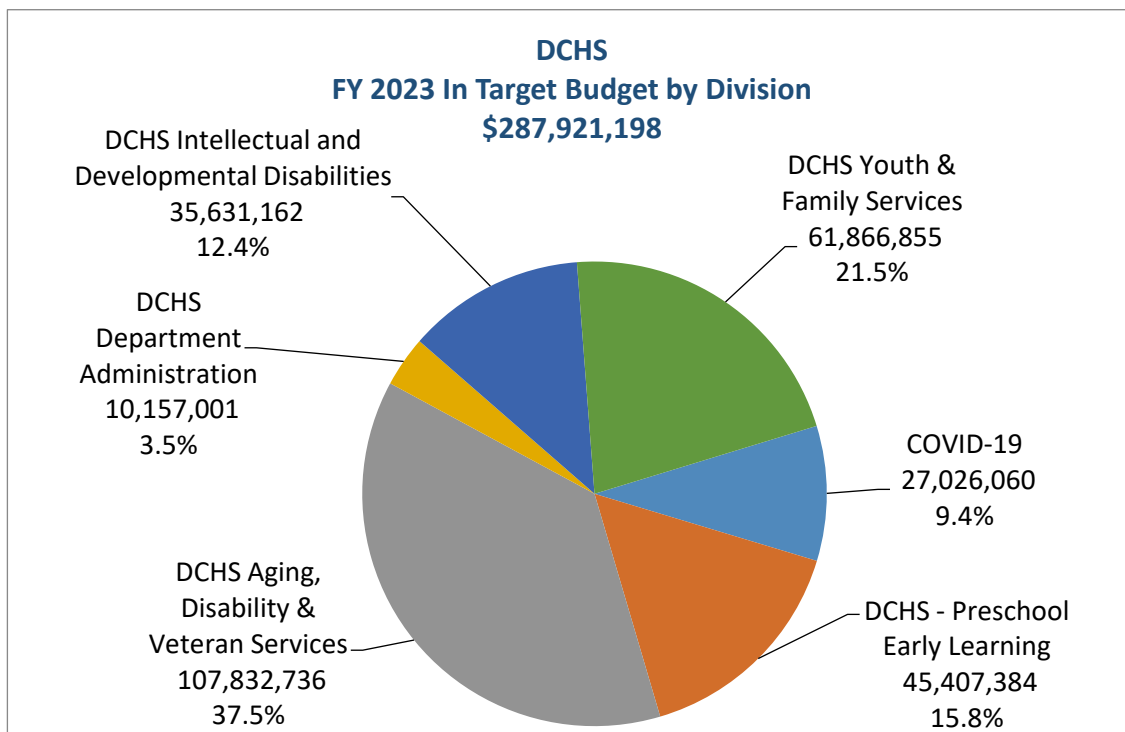
<b>FY 2023 Dept. DCHS Budget Submission</b>					
	FY 2023 General Fund	FY 2023 Other Funds (except 1515)	FY 2023 ARP Fund* (1515)	Total Funds	Total FTE
In Target Programs	61,581,672	199,313,466	27,026,060	287,921,198	917.40
Out of Target Programs	\$6,539,238		34,229,000	40,768,238	11.00
<b>Total FY 2023 Submission</b>	<b>\$68,120,910</b>	<b>\$199,313,466</b>	<b>\$61,255,060</b>	<b>\$328,689,436</b>	<b>928.40</b>

\* Submissions for the Direct County ARP allocation are Out of Target; other ARP sources (such as program-specific Federal, State, or local ARP funds) are considered In Target.

The Department of County Human Services is primarily funded by Federal/State Funds. The pie chart below shows the budget by fund for **in target programs**.



The Department of County Human Services has four divisions supported by department administration, with the **in target budget** distributed as shown in the pie chart below.



DCHS has a critical role in the county because the department designs programs, services and funding to provide stability for people across the lifespan. This budget supports the core work of the department by:

- In **early childhood**, DCCHS supports our youngest community members by ensuring equitable access to free, high-quality, developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive preschool experiences through the department's Preschool & Early Learning Division (PEL). PEL will collaborate across the department to offer developmentally appropriate early education access for youth served through the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services Division.
- DCCHS supports **young people** by promoting positive parenting, improving educational access and support for youth, making sure children have enough to eat in the year round, and that their families are stably housed.
- In **adulthood**, DCCHS supports young adults with disabilities who want to live in their own homes and have fulfilling and stable jobs, thus contributing to their economic stability. DCCHS helps people stay in affordable homes and provides safety and support for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
- DCCHS supports **older adults, people with disabilities and veterans to achieve** quality of life and independence by helping them navigate public programs, providing community programs that support people staying healthy and engaged, and intervening when older adults or people with disabilities are potentially being abused.

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## General Fund Target Allocation

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DCCHS evaluated our decisions using the following guiding principles, grounded in the DCCHS North Star: ***Every person – at every stage in life – has equitable opportunities to thrive.*** The specific budget decision-making priorities in FY 2023 are:

1. Racial Justice and Equity
2. Consumer Health and Safety
3. COVID-19 Response and Recovery: Wrap-Around Services
4. Economic Impact & Recovery for BIPOC Communities, such as: SUN Schools; emergency rent assistance & eviction prevention; Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT)
5. Data Driven Decisions to reflect DCCHS North Star (Quality of Life, Economic Stability, Educational Success and Diverse and Inclusive System)
6. Workforce development and supports (Future of Work)
7. Innovation and Sustainable Business Strategies
8. Cross Departmental Collaboration



## Reallocations

Significant Departmental Changes (Reallocations)			
Offer Number	Program Name	General Fund	FTE
various - YFS	various - YFS	(140,358)	
various - YFS	various - YFS	140,358	
25118	Youth and Family Services Administration	(102,308)	(1.00)
25118	Youth and Family Services Administration	102,308	1.00
25010	IDD Administration and Support	(179,838)	
25010	IDD Administration and Support	109,125	1.00
25012	IDD Services for Adults	70,713	0.70
25011	IDD Budget and Operations	(179,840)	
25012	IDD Services for Adults	179,840	1.77
<b>Totals</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3.47</b>

### PROGRAM DETAILS

**Various YFS Program Offers:** The Youth and Family Services Division is reallocating funds from several program offers to adjust for the increase in YFS internal costs and device counts. These CGF reductions do not impact contracted or YFS-delivered direct services.

**25118A - Youth and Family Services Administration:** The Youth and Family Services Division is reallocating funds from Youth and Family Services Administration to create an Administrative Analyst position to support and lead Division-wide projects, racial equity work and support the YFS Leadership Team.

**25010, 25011, & 25012 - IDD Administration and Support, IDD Budget and Operations, and IDD Services for Adults:** The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services Division is reallocating funds from IDD Administration & Support and IDD Budget & Operations to a new Quality Assurance Case Manager Senior. The remaining funds will be reallocated to IDD Services for Adults to fund 2.47 FTE of 3 full time Case Manager 2 positions to address increases in workload.

## State, Federal, Large Grant Funds

Other Fund Changes					
Offer Number	Program Name	General Fund	Other Funds	FTE Impacts	\$ GF Backfill Requested
25047	Domestic Violence Crisis Response Unit		(131,980)	0.00	0
25138A	Youth Stability & Homelessness Prevention Services		(53,349)	0.00	0
Multiple	ADVSD Supplemental Budget		11,412,121	68.65	0
Multiple	IDD Supplemental Budget		6,632,949	36.00	0
Multiple	YFS COVID-19 Response		31,197,707	7.00	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>49,057,448</b>	<b>111.65</b>	<b>0</b>

### PROGRAM DETAILS

**25047 - Domestic Violence Crisis Response Unit:** Other Funds decrease - Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) DV Enhanced Response Team (DVERT), Federal DVERT grant ended in FY22.

**25138A - Youth Stability & Homelessness Prevention Services:** Other Funds decrease - Youth Development Division Youth Investment is reduced because the grant from the State Youth Development Division was reduced in FY 2022.

**Multiple Program Offers - ADVSD Supplemental Budget:** This increase in funding from Medicaid, Older Americans Act, and other State funds will be used for the purposes of increasing staffing across the Division to improve services to Medicaid consumers, as well as pass through funding for nutrition, senior center assistance, and caregiver support.

**Multiple Program Offers - IDD Supplemental Budget:** This increase in Medicaid funding will allow IDSD to hire additional staff across the division, ensuring individuals health and safety, and to monitor providers for compliance with state and federal regulations around client's safety and quality of life.

**Multiple Program Offers - YFS COVID-19 Response:** The addition of funding for emergency rental assistance in Multnomah County, along with increased energy bill payment assistance and weatherization services and Low Income Home Water Assistance (LIHWA).

## Other Significant Program Changes

### Ongoing Out of Target Requests

The following table lists the Department of County Human Services' ongoing out of target requests in order of priority:

<b>Out of Target Program Requests (Ongoing)</b>					
Offer Number	Program Name	General Fund	Other Funds	FTE	New or Existing
25000B	DCHS Director's Office Emergency Management Shelter Response	139,844		1.00	New
25118B	YFS - Staffing Capacity Increase	140,000		1.00	New
25138B	YFS - Youth Stability & Homelessness Prevention Expansion	600,000		0.00	New
25050B	YFS - Gateway Center Intake Team Increase	227,120		2.00	New
25049B	YFS - Sexual Assault Services Unified Community Based Response	424,780		1.00	New
25160B	YFS - Data and Evaluation Services: SUN Community Schools Database Support	341,466		2.00	New
25156B	YFS - Bienestar Social Services Staff Expansion	356,032		3.00	New
25044B	YFS - DSVCO Peer Delivered Services	285,000		0.00	New
25118C	YFS - Division Support Staff Increase	148,000		1.00	New
25145B	YFS - SUN Community Schools Middle School Support	1,995,000		0.00	New
25138C	YFS - Youth Stability & Homelessness Prevention Grant Backfill	55,120		0.00	Backfill
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,712,362</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## PROGRAM DETAILS

**25000B - DCHS Director's Office Emergency Management Shelter Response:** Add 1.00 FTE Emergency Management Analyst Sr. to the Director's Office to manage DCHS's responsibilities for ESF-6 Mass Care and Shelter Disaster/Emergency response.

**25118B - YFS Staffing Capacity Increase:** Grants often have a range of requirements and are complex to administer. YFS needs additional staffing capacity to effectively administer grant funding and continue providing high quality services and programs.

**25138B - YFS Youth Stability & Homelessness Prevention Expansion:** This increases the total beds available from 4 to 8 for youth 12-17 years old by providing funding for additional staff to provide the safety needed to shelter additional youth. The program is experiencing capacity issues. Through the first two quarters of this year the program has already sheltered 36 youth - almost double the number sheltered last year. Evidence suggests the request for services will continue to rise.

**25050B - YFS Gateway Center Intake Team Increase:** The Gateway Center is the primary door into Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault services in the County. The addition of 2.00 FTE to the Gateway Center intake team ensures that survivors have access to trauma-informed, culturally-relevant services as service demand continues to increase and the program returns to a hybrid service model.

**25049B - YFS Sexual Assault Services Unified Community Based Response:** Multnomah County is proposing to establish a Unified Community-Based response to sexual assault, which connect survivors seeking support to a confidential community-based advocate as their initial point of contact. These funds will expand the current program by adding a 1.00 FTE Sexual Assault Specialist to the DSVCO team to ensure that community response aligns with the needs of survivors. The funding also supports 3.00 FTE additional contracted community-based Sexual Assault Advocates in the crisis services programs and culturally-specific agencies.

**25160B - YFS Data and Evaluation Services, SUN Community Schools Database Support:** Funding to develop, implement and maintain a new data system for SUN Community Schools. Funding includes 2.00 FTE staff for data analysis and funds the system purchase and ongoing fees.

**25156B - YFS Bienestar Social Services Staff Expansion:** Funding for 3.00 FTE to support social services and infrastructure at Bienestar de la Familia. The range of services and initiatives at Bienestar has stretched the supervisory, administrative and case management capacity of the program.

**25044B - YFS DSVCO Peer Delivered Services:** In recent community engagement, peer delivered services were highlighted as a priority to enhance response to domestic and sexual violence. Peer Mentors are uniquely positioned to provide participants with a wide range of support as they transition from violence into safety. Peer-delivered services also provide a

pathway for survivors into employment in the field of domestic and sexual violence. This is a new program that would fund a total of 3.00 FTE with community-based partners.

**25118C - YFS Division Support Staff Increase:** Funding 1.00 FTE to support Division budgeting and finance as well as new projects and development. This position will also support YFS' focus on racial equity projects and processes.

**25145B - YFS SUN Community Schools Middle School Support:** The pandemic is impacting youth in our community, showing up in behaviors and poor school performance. Many middle schools are having challenges providing students with additional social emotional support. This new program will develop middle school specific social emotional support programming and will ensure that BIPOC students experience positive cultural identity and address well-being and mental health.

**25138C - YFS Youth Stability & Homelessness Grant Backfill:** YFS was not awarded the full amount for this grant. Absent this backfill, the program will need to reduce 1.00 FTE Case management capacity, which reduces the number of youth who can access emergency shelter and services.

## One-Time-Only Out of Target Requests

The following table lists the Department of County Human Services' one-time-only out of target requests in order of priority:

Out of Target Program Requests (One-Time-Only)					
Offer Number	Program Name	General Fund	Other Funds	LD FTE	New or Existing
25121B	YFS - Cooling Support	\$1,270,740		2.00	New
25121C	YFS - Wood Stove Replacement	\$274,292		2.00	New
25026B	ADVSD Public Guardian/Conservator	\$161,844		1.00	New
25160C	YFS - Data and Evaluation Services: SUN Community Schools Database	\$95,000		0.00	New
25160D	YFS - DSVCO Data and Evaluation Services HMIS Setup	\$25,000		0.00	New
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,826,876</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5.00</b>	

## PROGRAM DETAILS

**25026B - ADVSD Public Guardian/Conservator Data System:** 1.00 limited duration position to work with County IT on the final phase of the Public Guardian Data System.

**25121B - YFS Cooling Support:** In the recent heat dome, lack of air conditioning was a key driver of deaths in Multnomah County, which disproportionately affected low-income folks, particularly seniors. Those most affected were communities with the least access to cooling resources. High temperatures and heat events are likely to only worsen over time. This East Multnomah County focused program will align with the City of Portland's newly launched effort

to provide portable air conditioners to vulnerable residents. We estimate assisting 1,000 households.

**25121C - YFS Wood Stove Replacement:** (New pilot program) Old and poorly functioning wood stoves impact overall air quality, community health and climate change. For this initial year, the request is for 2.00 FTE to build and implement the program. For year one, funding for equipment and installation will come from State ARP funds awarded to the Office of Sustainability. It will support households who have a non-EPA approved wood stove to replace it with another heating device. Estimate serving 100 households in the first year.

**25160C & D - YFS Data and Evaluation Services:** Provide one-time funding to implement a new database for SUN Community Schools and assume administration for the Domestic and Sexual Violence system.

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## COVID-19 Impacts & American Rescue Plan

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### Social and Economic Impacts:

Social determinants of health (SDOH) are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the distribution of money, power, and resources at global, national, and local levels, and are mostly responsible for health inequities. Resources that enhance quality of life – including safe and affordable housing; access to quality education; public safety; availability of healthy foods; local emergency services; and environments free of life-threatening toxins – can have a significant influence on communities' health outcomes.

Three core areas of SDOH – Education Access & Quality; Economic Stability; Social & Community Context – directly align with fundamental DCHS priorities and our services. DCHS is always looking for new opportunities to collaborate with health service systems in order to better serve our shared communities.

An October 2021 World Health Organization evidence brief “COVID-19 and the social determinants of health and health equity” offers a global analysis of how inequalities in the social determinants of health have been unmasked by the COVID-19 pandemic, and have led to glaring inequities in COVID-19 health outcomes between population groups – and how in turn, the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have unequally impacted the social determinants of health themselves, further exacerbating health inequities. The evidence brief specifies groups that have experienced increased rates of COVID-19 morbidity and mortality, including: poorer people; marginalized ethnic minorities, including Indigenous Peoples; low-paid essential workers; migrants; populations affected by emergencies, including conflicts; incarcerated populations; and homeless people. In Multnomah County and our region, DCHS serves all of these populations in some capacity through our programs and services.

The WHO evidence brief details how public health and social measures that have been necessary to reduce exposure to and transmission from the virus and mortality have led to significant and unequal health, social and economic damage – impacting already disadvantaged populations more severely. These impacts include:

- COVID-19 has driven millions of people into poverty (globally).
- Job losses have been borne disproportionately by women and workers who have less education and lower socio-economic position.
- COVID-19 has disrupted education, with broad social impacts for young people, and these impacts have been much greater for poorer children.
- Food insecurity has been compromised for the most marginalized communities.
- Discrimination and stigmatization, including ageism, have increased.
- COVID-19 has exacerbated gender inequality throughout society.

One way that these social and economic impacts affect community members in Multnomah County is felt acutely by DCHS' Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordination Office. For those experiencing domestic and sexual violence, home is often the place where the dynamics of power and abuse are played out. Thus, while lockdown measures may offer protection from COVID-19, they can also create conditions that elevate risk factors for violence and abuse to occur at home. Stay-at-home orders, widespread unemployment, and social distancing have left many survivors isolated at home with their abusers, often making it more difficult to access supportive family, friends, and safe spaces in the community. A report from the American Journal of Emergency Medicine shows an alarming increase of over 20% in incidents of domestic violence in the Portland metro area since the beginning of the pandemic, and this increase bears out in our data from both systems-based and community-based partners.

## Adapting DCHS Service Model:

In order to support our communities in our immediate and long-term recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, DCHS has implemented a range of programs and initiatives across the department including: Direct rental assistance; Unconditional payments to families; Tailored virtual senior center activities to reduce isolation for older adults; The COVID-19 call center in collaboration with Public Health; Culturally specific meal and grocery distribution; Wraparound support services for households quarantining due to positive COVID-19 test.

Two concrete examples of the impact of DCHS' creative adaptation of our service delivery include: moving to a hybrid model for domestic violence services intakes, which has resulted in a 30% increase in service levels at the Gateway Center; and an increase in the frequency of DCHS staff interaction with consumers in IDD, due to the relative accessibility of virtual connections over in-person contact.

As a department, DCHS is responding to the immediate needs of our communities while staying focused on future needs for racially just economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Our response and recovery efforts will continue into FY 2023 and beyond.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Programs						
Offer Number	Program Name	MC Direct Allocation	Other ARP Sources	FTE	Limited Duration	New or Existing
25491	COVID-19 Energy & Housing Services		4,288,300	7.00		New
25490A	COVID-19 YFS Emergency Rent Assistance		21,983,167		21.35	Existing
25490B	ARP - Emergency Rent Assistance	20,000,000			TBD	New
25399G	ARP - Eviction Moratorium & Prevention Support	400,000				Existing
25492A	COVID-19 ADVSD OAA ARP		754,593			New
25492B	ARP - DCHS Client Assistance	5,400,000			1.00	New
25399E	ARP - SUN Community Schools: Family Resource Navigators	4,073,000				Existing
25399C	ARP - Domestic Violence Services	755,000			2.00	Existing
25399B	ARP - Multnomah Mothers' Trust Project (MMTP)	1,350,000			1.00	Existing
25399A	ARP - ACHP Registered Nurse	200,000			1.00	Existing
25399J	ARP - Peer Support Tenant Services & Housing Stability	515,000				Existing
25399D	ARP - COVID-19 Response Coordination	80,000			1.00	Existing
25399F	ARP - SUN Community Schools: SUN COVID Response Support	1,456,000				Existing
<b>Total</b>		<b>34,229,000</b>	<b>27,026,060</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>27.35</b>	

## PROGRAM DETAILS

**25490A - COVID-19 YFS Emergency Rent Assistance:** It is uncertain if there will be additional federal or state rent assistance funding for the local Multnomah County expanded community



partner network. The Joint Office of Homeless Services will continue their investment in staffing support for nonprofits.

**25490B - ARP Emergency Rent Assistance:** YFS is requesting one-time-only funds for emergency rent assistance payments. This additional Multnomah County ARP allows YFS to meet some of the ongoing emergency rent assistance needs caused by the pandemic.

**25399G - ARP Eviction Moratorium & Prevention Support:** Housing instability continues to be a significant problem as diverse communities struggle with economic recovery from the pandemic. This offer provides access to up-to-date and accurate information about tenants' rights, and provides legal representation to tenants who receive eviction notices.

**25492B - ARP DCHS Client Assistance:** Vulnerable communities continue to be disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, with the highest impacts to BIPOC communities. DCHS will continue and expand Unconditional Cash Transfer for these households.

**25399E - ARP SUN Community Schools, Family Resource Navigators:** The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted family stability in many ways. These impacts have been most felt by students and families of color. Because basic needs have increased so much, the demand on SUN Community Schools (SUN CS) sites has also increased. The Family Resource Navigator (FRN) program in SUN CS allows sites to expand focus while ensuring family basic needs are met.

**25399C - ARP Domestic Violence Services:** The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an increase in both the incidence and severity of domestic violence. This funding expands the capacity of the DV system by funding six Victims' Advocates in culturally-specific community organizations and 2.00 limited duration Victims' Advocates in the County.

**25399B - ARP Multnomah Mothers' Trust Project (MMTP):** The Multnomah Mothers' Trust Project (MMTP) Year two will continue working with approximately 100 Black female-headed households with children currently receiving services from one of two community-based programs. Families will continue to receive an unconditional monthly basic income, and be invited to serve as participant researchers in an equity and human centered collaborative design process to explore future asset building initiatives. FY 2022 was funded for a partial year while the FY 2023 budget represents a full year of activity.

**25399A - ARP ACHP Registered Nurse:** This position will provide training, review infection control plans and provide technical assistance to adult care home providers to ensure residents' preferences are health and safety needs are met in a culturally appropriate, safe, and welcoming 24-hour care setting.

**25399J - ARP Peer Support Tenant Services & Housing Stability:** Multnomah County is experiencing an unprecedented housing crisis. Black, Indigenous and other Communities of Color (BIPOC) continue to experience homelessness at higher rates and have less access to quality, affordable housing. The Peer Navigation Program will help address this gap in services

by creating a system of peer counselors that provide one-to-one support, peer coaching, resource sharing and networking with other renters.

**25399D - ARP COVID-19 Response Coordination:** IDSD will use these funds for an Office Assistant 2 to support division-wide COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.

**25399F - ARP SUN Community Schools, SUN COVID Response Support:** There are three core areas where SUN Community Schools have expanded to address pandemic impacts: 1) summer activity support; 2) food pantries; and 3) symptom spaces. SUN Community Schools (SUN CS) builds relationships with children and families that are culturally-grounded and trauma-informed.

## Span of Control

ADVSD	1:12
IDSD	1:10
YFS	1:7
PEL	1:3
Administration	1:6
<b>DCHS</b>	<b>1:10</b>

## Division Level Organization Chart

