

SUN

SERVICE SYSTEM

Building a Brighter Future for Kids and their Families

System Overview

SUN SERVICE SYSTEM

The SUN Service System is Multnomah County's premiere poverty elimination effort. SUN is an integrated system of care, providing the social and support services to youth, families and community members that lead to educational success and self-sufficiency.

VISION

SUN brings a renewed focus in Multnomah County on school-age children and on providing the supports that allow all children the opportunity to succeed. Educational success and attainment are viewed as the key route for our citizens, young and old, out of poverty. It also represents a new level of commitment on the part of the County to provide culturally-specific services to best meet the needs of our diverse community. One-third of the resources contracted out in the SUN Service System are designated for culturally specific services.

SUN improves vital services by aligning city, county, state, and federal resources and programs through a single service delivery system. Improvements are aligned with the 6 key County priorities: Basic Living Needs, Education, Safety, Accountability, Thriving Economy and Vibrant Communities.

SUN SERVICES

Services are delivered through school-linked and school-based strategies. The full-service package of services made accessible includes:

Social Services for Educational Support

- Emergency Services
- Rent Assistance
- Extended-day Activities
- Case Management
- Parent Education & Engagement
- Early Childhood Programs
- Culturally-Specific Services
- Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug services

Health Services

Mental Health Services

Library Services

LOCATIONS

Resources delivered by the SUN Service System meet youth and families where they reside: their schools, their cultural communities, and their neighborhoods.

To accomplish this the system currently includes:

- 6 Regional Service Centers
- 55 SUN Community Schools
- Countywide community sites

"SUN Service System support allows the teachers to devote their time to educating youngsters while the social, health and mental health needs of students are addressed by the appropriate service specialists."

– Ken Noah
Superintendent



Multnomah County
Department of School &
Community Partnerships

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<http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/dscp>

Governmental Partners

City of Portland

County Departments:

Health

Human Services

Library

County Commission on
Children, Families &
Community

School Districts:

Centennial

David Douglas

Gresham-Barlow

Parkrose

Portland Public

Reynolds

State Department of
Human Services

State Department of Housing
& Community Services

Oregon Commission on
Children & Families

Oregon Department of
Education

U.S. Department of Housing
& Urban Development

SUN Service System Service Providers

Albina Head Start

Albina Ministerial Alliance

Cascadia Behavioral Health

Catholic Charities

Desarollo Integral de la
Familia

Friendly House

Girls Initiative Network of
Western Oregon

Human Solutions, Inc.

Immigrant & Refugee
Community Organization

LifeWorks Northwest

Lutheran Community
Services, NW

Metropolitan Family Service

Mount Hood Community
College

Native American
Rehabilitation Association

Native American Youth
Association

Neighborhood House

Oregon Council for Hispanic
Advancement

Portland Impact

Self-Enhancement, Inc.

YWCA

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ALIGNED PARTNERS

Delivery of services is accomplished through an aligned system of providers, both non-profit and governmental. Culturally specific providers play an expanded role in this system. See the list of partners in the yellow side panel.

OUTCOMES

Both program-level and system-level goals have been defined for the SUN Service System. Specific outcome measures are derived from these broader goals which include:

- Increasing access to services and supports for high-risk children and their families.
- Minimizing barriers to learning for children not succeeding in school.
- Increasing school attendance
- Improving academic achievement levels for children not reaching benchmarks.
- Closing the achievement gap among students of various cultural backgrounds.
- Decreasing the drop-out rate.
- Increasing enrollment in school or alternative settings for kids who have dropped out of school.
- Reduce the effects of poverty and homelessness as a barrier to school success and self-sufficiency.

BACKGROUND

The SUN Service System, launched in March 2004, operationalizes a vision and policies set forth by County Chair Diane Linn and the Board of County Commissioners in the School Age Policy Framework. As of Fall 2004, all service components of the SUN model are fully implemented. It is the County's goal to expand services to build upon the established framework as funding permits, including SUN Community Schools to 108 high-need schools.

CONNECTED

As the service system aspect of the School-Age Policy Framework, SUN Service System is connected with other county-wide framework initiatives: the 10-year-plan to end homelessness, the Early Childhood Framework, the Children and Youth Framework, the Poverty Elimination Framework and the Gang Services Plan. By working collaboratively with the Commission on Children, Families and Community to intersect these frameworks, we are able to develop policies and plans for deploying our community's resources. Our goal is to build a united system that efficiently and effectively delivers the services and supports our children and families need to thrive.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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