

Program #10055A - Diversion Services

Program Contact: Marc Jolin

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program** Program Offer Stage: As Adopted

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

A Home for Everyone has identified diversion as a critical strategy to reduce the number of people experiencing street and shelter homelessness in our community. This program continues existing capacity to divert people from homelessness through partnerships with the domestic violence system, the family system, the corrections and healthcare systems, as well as 211info. Together these investments will divert hundreds of men, women and children from street and shelter homelessness.

Program Summary

Diversion programs vary by implementation, but have in common the assessment of an individual who is facing living on the streets or in shelter to determine whether they have a housing option they could access with a modest, typically one-time, investment. Diversion is recognized nationally and locally as a critical tool in reducing street and shelter homelessness.

- Family Diversion has been a successful intervention for both preventing families from coming to emergency shelter and moving families out of shelter quickly. All families are surveyed to determine if they have an immediate housing option and, if so, diversion resources are used to help them capitalize on that opportunity.
- Corrections Diversion resources are directed to people leaving incarceration through a partnership with DCJ that offers access to employment, treatment, and housing assistance resources to ensure that they do not become homeless.
- DV Diversion services focus on preventing homelessness and diverting domestic violence survivors and their children from shelters through eviction prevention or housing placement. Diversion services offer flexible, rapid responses that allows survivors to avoid the trauma and safety risks of becoming homeless. These services reach hundreds of survivors annually and serve a diverse population, with 75% identifying as people of color.
- Hospital Diversion partners with the hospital system to provide essential rental assistance and care coordination resources to hospital discharge workers to allow patients to discharge to housing options and not to the streets or shelter.
- Transportation Program diverts individuals from the streets and shelter through one-time transportation assistance to a location where they have a verified housing option. Most commonly this program reunites individuals with family in other communities.
- · Benefit Assistance serves homeless and formerly homeless individuals with assistance in securing Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), and/or Medicaid and Medicare benefits. A team of disability specialists, and a workflow system with federal and local benefits agencies, streamline and expedite the application process. When individuals are awarded benefits, not only do they have income which helps them pay for housing, they are awarded Medicaid which brings a tremendous amount of resources to the community.

Performance Measures									
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer				
Output	Number of participants receiving diversion services	2,303	1,830	1,800	1,800				
Outcome	% of exits to permanent housing	89%	95%	95%	95%				
Output	Number of DV survivors diverted from homelessness	534	500	500	500				

Performance Measures Descriptions

6/25/2019

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020	
Contractual Services	\$1,027,710	\$1,466,815	\$1,504,903	\$1,525,500	
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,027,710	\$1,466,815	\$1,504,903	\$1,525,500	
Program Total:	\$2,494,525		\$3,030,403		
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

Program Revenues								
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,466,815	\$0	\$1,525,500				
Beginning Working Capital	\$370,000	\$0	\$384,800	\$0				
Total Revenue	\$370,000	\$1,466,815	\$384,800	\$1,525,500				

Explanation of Revenues

City of Portland General Fund - \$1,525,500 Multnomah County Tax Title Fund - \$384,800

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 10055A-19 Diversion Services

This program combines FY 2019 programs 10055A and 10055B. Additionally, \$436,000 for the Benefits Acquisition Program previously funded in DCHS (program 25115) is being combined with this program to consolidate the work and reduce administrative burdens for both the provider and the County.