

# Program #15101A - Juvenile Court Trial Unit

**Program Contact:** John Casalino

**Department: District Attorney** 

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

**Related Programs:** 

**Program Characteristics:** 

### **Executive Summary**

The Juvenile Court Trial Unit's primary function, due to reduced funding, includes some delinguency matters. This unit, working with Multnomah County's Juvenile Services Division, prosecutes serious felonies and certain misdemeanors committed by those under 18 years of age. This program seeks community protection, reformation of the youth and restitution to victims of crime. Refer to program 15101B which partially restores the Unit to two primary functions: 1) delinquency and 2) limited dependency.

## **Program Summary**

The purposes of the Oregon juvenile justice system are to protect the public and reduce juvenile delinquency and to provide fair and impartial procedures for the initiation, adjudication and disposition of allegations of delinquent conduct. This Unit prosecutes juveniles who have committed all but the most serious (Ballot Measure 11) crimes. This includes cases ranging from minor misdemeanors to serious felonies. The unit works closely with the Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Juvenile Division in developing appropriate sanctions aimed at accountability, community protection and reformation of the child or youth. Additionally, one of the goals of this program is to reduce the number of youth who are exposed to the adult criminal system.

For over 25 years this program has been involved in the Anne E. Casey Foundations Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). The current interagency agreement with the Juvenile Services Division provides for opportunities for youth to have their matters handled informally, either through the CHI Early Intervention Program, or through informal handling by the Juvenile Department. The current agreement calls for MCDA to provide legal sufficiency screening of all referrals, to insure that youth are held accountable only for acts that are legally sufficient. Legal sufficiency screening by non-lawyers often results in youth being held accountable inappropriately. The goal of these programs is to provide the principles of accountable and reformation without pulling a youth further into the Juvenile System.

These DDAs coordinate with the Department of Human Services, DCJ and juvenile court counselors to serve families impacted by the juvenile system. Beginning July 1, 2019, the Department of Human Services will redirect state and federal funds from MCDA to pay their own lawyers at the Department of Justice to represent DHS in all TPR and dependency matters in Multnomah County. Refer to Program 15101B (Dependency and Delinquency) which partially restores this unit to two primary functions to serve families in Multnomah County. Lost funding, however, eliminates victim's advocates to help those involved in the court process navigate the complicated and often unfamiliar juvenile system and impacts victim safety restitution or restorative justice when appropriate. This program will no longer accomplish community protection, youth reformation and family preservation and skill building to the extent it has in the past.

| Performance Measures |  |                |                   |                  |               |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|----------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Measure<br>Type      | Primary Measure  | FY18<br>Actual | FY19<br>Purchased | FY19<br>Estimate | FY20<br>Offer |  |  |  |
| Output               | Cases reviewed for Delinquency, Dependency, TPR  | 2,043          | na/-              | 1,363            | 1,363         |  |  |  |
| Outcome              | Early intervention program participants% less likely to recidivate than non-participants | 40%            | na/-              | 40%              | 40%           |  |  |  |
| Input                | Number of attorneys needed to fulfill program description                                | na/-           | 11                | 7                | 3             |  |  |  |

#### **Performance Measures Descriptions**

For additional MCDA Budget Information:

http://mcda.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/MCDA-Budget-Informational-Packet-FY-20.pdf

6/25/2019

# **Legal / Contractual Obligation**

Juvenile Trial Court: 8.685 Assisting juvenile court; right to appear. (1) The District Attorney shall, upon request of the juvenile court, appear in the juvenile court to assist the court in any matter within its jurisdiction. (2) In counties having a population of more than 150,000, according to the latest federal decennial census, the district attorney shall designate a deputy to assist the juvenile court as provided in subsection (1) of this section. (3) The District Attorney is entitled to appear on behalf of the state in the juvenile court in any matter within the jurisdiction of the court. [1959 c.432 §63 (enacted in lieu of 8.750); 1991 c.681 §4.

## **Revenue/Expense Detail**

|                      | Proposed General<br>Fund | Proposed Other<br>Funds | Proposed General<br>Fund | Proposed Other<br>Funds |
|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Program Expenses     | 2019                     | 2019                    | 2020                     | 2020                    |
| Personnel            | \$1,531,078              | \$1,342,289             | \$940,187                | \$0                     |
| Contractual Services | \$12,000                 | \$25,000                | \$12,000                 | \$0                     |
| Materials & Supplies | \$33,800                 | \$0                     | \$36,300                 | \$0                     |
| Internal Services    | \$146,099                | \$0                     | \$0                      | \$0                     |
| Total GF/non-GF      | \$1,722,977              | \$1,367,289             | \$988,487                | \$0                     |
| Program Total:       | \$3,090,266              |                         | \$988,487                |                         |
| Program FTE          | 11.75                    | 8.60                    | 6.00                     | 0.00                    |

| Program Revenues  |     |             |     |     |  |  |
|-------------------|-----|-------------|-----|-----|--|--|
| Intergovernmental | \$0 | \$1,367,289 | \$0 | \$0 |  |  |
| Total Revenue     | \$0 | \$1,367,289 | \$0 | \$0 |  |  |

### **Explanation of Revenues**

#### Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 15101-19 Juvenile Court Trial Unit

State and Federal funding was eliminated in this program because the Department of Human Services has decided to have the Department of Justice represent DHS in all Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) and dependency matters in Multnomah County. This program offer also reflects a General Fund reduction in order to meet the budget constraint. Because of reductions in both funding and FTE, this program lost two important child protection functions: dependency and TPR. This program no longer advocates for proactive child protection efforts in dependency court proceedings. This program no longer litigates cases where the abuse or neglect of a child necessitates effort be made to free the child for adoption (TPR). Certain crimes will no longer be prosecuted. Refer to Program 15101B which restores the reduction in County funding to allow MCDA to continue delinquency and a limited role in dependency.