

Program # 21020A - School Svcs -Full Svc Schools- School Attendance Initiative **Version 2/14/2005 s**

Priority:	Education	Lead Agency:	School and Community
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	Program Contact:	Peggy Samolinski
Related Programs:	21003, 21005, 21007, 21009, 21014, 21015A, 21016A, 21018, 21022, 21023, 21024, 21016B, 21020B, 21025A, 21025B, 21026		
Frameworks:	School Aged Policy Framework, Early Childhood Framework, Poverty Framework		

Executive Summary

The School Attendance Initiative (SAI) works with students (K-8th grade) who experience difficulty in attending school. Staff provide outreach to students and families; case brokerage; attendance monitoring; and referral to community services during the 10 month school year. SAI is the component of a full services school continuum that provides attendance services. The other components of this continuum are SUN Community Schools (extended day activities, family engagement and service access and integration) and Touchstone(direct service/case management).

Program Description

Students who have missed 3 days in a 15-day period are eligible for referral to SAI, which receives weekly referrals from a school designee. Staff provide outreach to students referred (and their families) through a combination of letters, home visits, and phone calls. Brokerage to needed services is provided to students (and their families) with multiple and severe needs. Attendance monitoring is provided for referred students for the remainder of the school year.

Program Justification

This program supports Education primarily by utilizing the second strategy (support caregivers and parents in preparing their children to learn) and the sixth strategy (bridge the gaps and breakdown the barriers to help all youth attend, engage in and succeed in school). Education is critical to breaking the cycle of poverty; in a recent study, children who had spent 1-3 adolescent years in a family below the poverty line were 60% less likely to graduate from high school; for children who had spent 4 adolescent years in poverty, that figure rose to 75%. Removing the barriers to consistent attendance is critical to school success, and SAI has proven effective in this. In a recent study, the percent of students referred to SAI who were attending school 90% of the time was 4% prior to intervention, and 36% after SAI intervention. Furthermore, previous to intervention, 17% of referred middle school students were meeting academic standards in math; after SAI intervention, that number more than doubled to 36%. For reading, the numbers were 34% and 45%. By ensuring that students are in school, SAI lowers student absenteeism which was identified as comparatively high in the Oregon Chalkboard study.

Performance Measures

DSCP does not currently have the capacity to capture student success as measured by school promotion, state benchmark scores or school attendance; this is under development. The interim measures that are captured include:

800 students referred to the School Attendance Initiative.

33% of students referred will attend school at least 90% of the time post intervention.

(Past evaluation has shown that over a three year period, 45 days prior to SAI intervention 3% to 5% of students referred were attending 90% of the time. After intervention 36% of referred students attend school 90% of the time. Attending school 90% of the time is a program benchmark. Post-intervention attendance was 83% for each of the three years.)

75% of students referred will receive at least one face to face or phone contact.

68% of students referred will be contacted in the first week of referral.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

In FY04 1693 students were referred to SAI. SAI service was available to 135 K-8 schools in Multnomah County (with 15 FTE). Given the 500k budget reduction, and staffing capacity of 6 FTE, FY05 expected referral target is 750-800; SAI service available to 41 K-8 schools in Multnomah County; these schools are high risk schools served through the School Age Policy Framework.

Program Mandate: 4 Program and Funding Level Choice**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$335,502	\$0	\$504,492	\$0
Contracts	\$46,157	\$0	\$56,597	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$24,198	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$118,499	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$381,659	\$0	\$703,786	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$7,092	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$43,784	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$50,876	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$381,659	\$0	\$754,662	\$0
Program Total:	\$381,659		\$754,662	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	6.48	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund - Based on current fiscal year services

Significant Program Changes