

**Priority:** Safety Net Services

**Lead Agency:** County Human

**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating

**Program Contact:** Godwin Nwerem

**Related Programs:**

**Frameworks:** Early Childhood Framework

### **Executive Summary**

The healthy emotional development of children up to age six is supported by this program by providing early childhood mental health consultation, and child and family treatment. Services include classroom consultation, child and family mental health services, parent groups, and referral services to culturally competent community supports. (This offer amended by the board, see significant program changes for more information).

### **Program Description**

Mental health consultants from Multnomah County and its contractors work with early childhood care and education settings located in Multnomah County. They provide a comprehensive continuum of culturally competent services to poverty level, at-risk children and families to promote positive emotional, relational development of children up to age 6. Services include early childhood classroom consultation, child mental health assessment and family centered treatment, family mental health services, child specific consultation with early childhood educators, triage and referral, and support and education, including parent groups.

Through this program Spanish-speaking parenting and counseling services are provided to Hispanic families at Portland Public Schools Head Start, Migrant Head Start, Albina Head Start, and Mt Hood Head Start.

This program works with the Multnomah Commission on Children, Families and Community to identify mental health service delivery needs and system integration. This is a dedicated effort to ensure this program is in line with the Early Childhood Framework.

### **Program Justification**

The National Early Childhood Longitudinal Study demonstrates that children in low-income families lag behind in social-emotional, intellectual, and physical development. Thirty-nine percent of Oregon's children under age six are living in low-income households. Linked directly to the priorities of the Basic Living Needs priority by supporting and educating families and caregivers, this program works to improve these children's level of functioning through parent education, prevention and early intervention services. This is effectively done within home-based, childcare and early childhood educational settings. The program provides access to high-quality, culturally appropriate, family centered services. This program fits into the Early Childhood Framework by providing coordinated services that strengthen the family. Prevention and early intervention services provided to young children and their families can address needs before they become more acute and require more intensive and more costly care.

"Early childhood mental health consultation is a way to promote emotional well-being and provide needed interventions, beginning where most young children spend their days. Consultation is a 'two-for-one' strategy; early childhood mental health consultants can both intervene with individual children and families and improve the quality of early childhood care and education programs." National Center for Children in Poverty

### **Performance Measures**

Ninety percent of children receiving treatment services remain in their current childcare/educational setting. Improved functioning of children receiving treatment as recorded by the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment. Parents of children receiving treatment services satisfied 90 percent of the time with the services received.

Agency staff and administrators are satisfied 90 percent of the time with the consultation services received.

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

County General funds paid for comprehensive assessment and referral or treatment for 444 young children and their parents this last year. This included the provision of culturally specific treatment or assistance in accessing such services when indicated.

**Program Mandate: 3 Program Choice but No Funding/Service Level Choice**

Financial obligations contingent upon County choosing to operate as a CMHP per ORS 430.620 and contract as MHO. Adult Mental Health Rule 309-032-0525, Child Mental Health Rule 309-032-0950

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
<b>Program Expenses</b>				
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$613,741	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$46,503	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$660,244</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$10,299	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$29,457	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$39,756</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$700,000</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	9.40	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

\$905,458 in County General Funds support this program.

**Significant Program Changes**

Budget Note:

The Chair's proposed budget did not include County General Funds for this program. Per the Board note, it is the intent of the Board to fully fund the program up to the \$900,000 or an equivalent service level. \$200,000 of the funding will be earmarked in contingency until County Human Services can provide clarification regarding how to maximize State Medicaid reimbursement dollars.