

Program # 50004 - Research and Evaluation Unit**Version 4/22/2005 s****Priority:** Accountability**Lead Agency:** Community Justice**Program Offer Type:** Support**Program Contact:** Scott Keir**Related Programs:****Frameworks:****Executive Summary**

The Research and Evaluation (R&E) Unit analyzes and reports on issues critical to the Department (DCJ) including program planning, quality improvement, and assessing program impacts. Results are presented to DCJ management, staff and the Board. R&E also develops and reports performance measures for all department programs, services, and contracts.

Program Description

The R&E Unit supports the departmental principle of information-based decision-making by: a) conducting process and outcome evaluations of programs and initiatives, b) presenting research and evaluation studies orally and in writing to internal and external stakeholders, c) providing support for routine and periodic management reporting, and d) making recommendations regarding departmental priorities supported by the research and evaluative process. All of these tasks are conducted in a manner consistent with the American Evaluation Association's (AEA) 'Guiding Principles for Evaluators.'

Program Justification

R&E responsibilities are critical for holding programs and services accountable. Accountability is accomplished by providing data to assess program impacts, guide program development, and support legislative mandates (e.g., S.B. 267). R&E works closely with management and staff to ensure their assignments address the mission and goals of the department. The R&E supervisor also serves on the departmental management team so that the R&E Unit can be aware of any new initiatives being considered and then provide timely input regarding research on best practices. In this way, the department's decisions can be based on data and program development and implementation based on solid research evidence.

Performance Measures

* 80% of departmental requests for studies/analyses/reports will be completed on time (based on a date agreed upon by R&E Unit and staff member making the request). * 80% of DCJ staff that complete an annual satisfaction survey will report a positive experience after working with the R&E Unit. These measures will track the R&E Unit's ability to support the department through the sharing of timely, practical, and high quality information contributing to improved offender outcomes over time (e.g., program completion, reduced recidivism).

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

The R&E Unit completed several key studies/reports in FY04 for the juvenile division (e.g., 'Crime Trends,' 'Recidivism,' 'Minority Over-Representation') and the adult division (e.g., 'Clean Court Outcome' 'Alcohol/Drug Treatment Outcomes'). R&E will complete and present the results of these annual reports again in 2006. The dissemination of these reports contributes to DCJ's ongoing efforts to make informed decisions and improve offender outcomes. All reports and studies completed by the R&E Unit over the past several years have been posted on DCJ's R&E website (<http://www.co.multnomah.or.us/dcj/evaluation.shtml>). Also, by the end of 2006, the R&E Unit expects to meet the stated goals of 80% for the two performance measures stated above.

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

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2005	2005	2006	2006
Personnel	\$199,678	\$101,760	\$257,339	\$51,537
Contracts	\$46,328	\$3,360	\$11,582	\$840
Materials & Supplies	\$7,260	\$0	\$6,863	\$486
Internal Services	\$7,906	\$1,339	\$7,109	\$1,353
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$261,172	\$106,459	\$282,893	\$54,216
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$261,172	\$106,459	\$282,893	\$54,216
Program Total:	\$367,631		\$337,109	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.65	0.60
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$900	\$0	\$835	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$22,319	\$0	\$34,674
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,542
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$900	\$22,319	\$835	\$54,216

Explanation of Revenues

This budget is primarily general fund. Three grants are purchasing evaluation from REU as part of the grant programs: Byrne HERO grant evaluation will continue through the first quarter of the year \$12,797; Byrne Multi Systemic Therapy evaluation for juveniles through the first quarter \$21,877; and Reclaiming Futures evaluations for juveniles for the year \$19,542.

Significant Program Changes

Two research positions (R/E Analyst 1 and R/E Analyst 2) that were funded through two Byrne Grants for the past three years will no longer be funded by these grants after they end on Sept. 30, 2005. At this time, DCJ has decided to fund only the R/E Analyst 1 position to maintain the current level of service in Research and Evaluation.