

Priority:	Safety	Lead Agency:	Community Justice
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	Program Contact:	Thach Nguyen
Related Programs:	50030, 50036A, 50038, 50041, 50044, 50045, 50055, 50058		
Frameworks:	School Aged Policy Framework, Early Childhood Framework, Poverty Framework		

Executive Summary

Formal juvenile probation promotes safety by supervising approximately 1,000 high and medium risk juvenile offenders (aged 12-18) a year, using evidenced based approaches that prevent youth from committing new crimes. Nearly six-and-a-half (63.8%) out of every ten juvenile offenders referred to the Department of Community Justice in 2002 did not commit another crime. The number of youth who commit new offenses has decreased 31.7% since 1998, and violent youth crime is down over 36% since then.

Program Description

All youth on formal probation in the county are high and medium risk delinquents. Formal probation monitors these youth in the community and ensures that they abide by their probation conditions (e.g., attend school, treatment and anger management classes, pay victims restitution) or face consequences. Probation also refers delinquents to behavior-change services that target each youth's unique risks and the problems that contribute to criminal behavior, and monitors their compliance with treatment. Each youth's case is informed by a comprehensive risk assessment and case plan, which may include drug abuse and mental health evaluations and treatment. Probation Officers meet with the youth and their families to check on their probation compliance, progress in treatment, school attendance and employment. If a youth does not comply, Probation Officers hold youth responsible for their behavior by imposing sanctions that can range from community service to detention. Probation is also indispensable to juvenile court. Probation Officers assess youth prior to adjudication and recommend how to hold the youth accountable, repair harm to the victim, and provide interventions that will reduce a youth's risk to re-offend.

Program Justification

Juvenile probation is integral to the county's safety strategies. Juvenile probation ensures that youth comply with court orders, and imposes appropriate consequences when they do not. Probation is consistent with the streams of offenders model: resources are focused on high and medium risk youth. Probation officers intervene with youth, using evidence-based practices (such as ordering mental health and drug abuse treatment), in ways that prevent youth from committing new crimes and entering the adult system. Finally, data show that probation works: between 1998-2002, the number of probation youth who re-offended decreased by 31.7%. This means that 469 fewer youth returned to the juvenile justice system in that time and countless victims were spared.

Performance Measures

68% (based on state rate for 2002 offenders) of youth on probation will not commit a new crime within 12 months of their initial offense.

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

The recidivism rate has declined consistently over the past five years. For juvenile offenders in 2002, 64% of these youth did not commit a criminal offense w/in 12 months of their initial criminal offense. Next year, we expect this rate to increase to 68%.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

ORS 419C.001 mandates that "The [juvenile] system shall provide a continuum of services that emphasize prevention of further criminal activity by the use of early and certain sanctions, reformation and rehabilitation programs and swift and decisive intervention in delinquent behavior." As a result, counties must provide probation supervision to delinquent youth.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2005	2005	2006	2006
Personnel	\$1,730,595	\$459,932	\$1,258,286	\$565,786
Contracts	\$69,929	\$80,894	\$79,429	\$87,663
Materials & Supplies	\$121,901	\$28,677	\$128,940	\$24,640
Internal Services	\$163,478	\$45,408	\$836,649	\$56,459
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$2,085,903	\$614,911	\$2,303,304	\$734,548
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$173,945	\$25,877
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$507,680	\$2,561
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$681,625	\$28,438
Total GF/non-GF:	\$2,085,903	\$614,911	\$2,984,929	\$762,986
Program Total:	\$2,700,814		\$3,747,915	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	15.17	7.33
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$26,087	\$0	\$31,124	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$614,911	\$0	\$734,548
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$26,087	\$614,911	\$31,124	\$734,548

Explanation of Revenues

This program is partially funded with ITAX dollars \$203,599; State Oregon Youth Authority Diversion \$68,632; State OYA Flex funds \$108,801; State Juvenile Crime Prevention Basic \$194,664; and State JCP Prevention \$362,451.

Significant Program Changes

To further reduce the recidivism rate in a climate of reduced resources, we will further focus our resources on the chronic and serious offender population and continue to integrate evidence-based practices into our case management. During the next fiscal year, Formal Probation Services staff will receive in-depth training in "motivational interviewing", a research-based technique to improve client engagement. We will also refine our risk assessment and case planning, increase collaboration with schools and community groups, reduce the time between arrest and supervision by a probation officer, and strengthen services to youth of color to address the over-representation issues.