

Program # 50058 - Chronic and Serious Youth Offender Program

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Priority:	Safety	Lead Agency:	Community Justice
Program Offer Type:	New Program	Program Contact:	Thach Nguyen
Related Programs:	50030, 50042, 50044, 50045, 50051, 50055		
Frameworks:	School Aged Policy Framework, Early Childhood Framework, Poverty Framework		

Executive Summary

The Chronic and Serious Youth Offender Program will pro-actively supervise 90 youth who are most likely to commit multiple crimes, including robbery, assault, weapons possession, and drug sales. The goal is to reduce the re-offense rate of a small group of offenders who commit 50% of juvenile re-offenses, thus significantly decreasing crime and victimization.

Program Description

This program will target youth who have 3 or more arrests and/or are on probation for robbery, assault, weapon-possession, and drug sales (90-100 youth). Research shows that close supervision, intensive treatment, and strong and visible community outreach reduce rates of youth homicide and violent crime. Features of the program include: lower caseloads for juvenile probation officers to allow for more frequent contact and monitoring; greater collaboration with law enforcement, community, schools, and treatment providers; increased capacity to hold the most dangerous youth accountable through DCJ sanction programs (e.g., community service, skill-building and detention); and referrals to culturally-specific programs and specialized, short-term treatment foster care, where youth are removed from their anti-social environment and receive counseling and other services.

Program Justification

This program supports the County Safety priority: By focusing supervision and accountability resources on the most risky and re-offending youth, it is consistent with holding the highest risk offenders accountable. According to DCJ data, 8% of youth under DCJ supervision commit about 50% of new criminal referrals. These youth are much more likely to need intensive street outreach, frequent contacts with their probation officer, and swift and sure sanctions to change their anti-social and delinquent behavior and reduce violence. The program also prevents re-offending and future adult criminal behavior by providing intensive mental health and drug abuse treatment and other early intervention services that address the unique issues facing high-risk youth: alcohol and drug use, runaway histories, negative peers and family problems.

Performance Measures

80% of youth assigned to this program will not commit a criminal offenses while enrolled in the program; 65% of youth assigned served by this program unit will not commit another new criminal offense w/in 12 months of program discharge.

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

Since this is a new program no recidivism data are available for last year. From 1998 to 2002, the number of criminal referrals to DCJ has decreased fairly consistently and there were 17 fewer 'chronic offending' youth in 2003 than in 2002 (decrease of 7.3%). Next year, we expect to meet the performance measures above.

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."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$489,474	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$27,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$4,200	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$23,624	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$544,298	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$25,468	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$27,215	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$52,683	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$596,981	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$596,981	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	7.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County general fund.

Significant Program Changes

The three new juvenile probation officers would team with three current juvenile probation officers and each would supervise a caseload of about 15 youth. To support supervision efforts, one mental health counselor (MHC) would be added to conduct comprehensive assessments using the GAIN instrument (thus removing any barriers to service due to insurance coverage issues) and an additional MHC to provide multi-systemic therapy (MST) services. Two Community Works Leaders provides added sanctioning capacity beyond what the accountability programs and detention already afford. If the Juvenile Services Division provides this high-risk population with levels of service similar to those described above, without new funds to do so, it is important to note that DCJ would have to discontinue services to lower risk youthful offenders currently managed through informal intervention.