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|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Priority: | Safety | Lead Agency: | Community Justice |
| Program Offer Type: | Existing Operating | Program Contact: | Liv Jenssen |
| Related Programs: | 25029, 25060, 50006, 50023, 50069 | | |
| Frameworks: | Poverty Framework, 10-year Plan to End Homelessness | | |

Executive Summary

The Transitional Services Unit (TSU) links over 1,000 recently released, high-risk and violent offenders (including mentally ill and predatory sex offenders) to short and long-term housing at the Medford and other residences managed by community partners. By stabilizing their shelter needs, TSU housing decreases the chance these dangerous offenders will re-offend, increases their compliance with post-prison supervision and helps parole officers monitor their whereabouts. TSU Housing works: 73% of offenders in housing did not re-offend.

Program Description

TSU Housing provides short- and long-term housing to dangerous and disabled offenders newly released from prison who are homeless or whose housing poses public safety concerns. Each day, TSU Housing provides shelter to an average of 279 offenders (1,000 per year). TSU Housing develops a long-term housing plan for every offender housed in transitional placement. TSU works closely with community providers such as Central City Concern (which operates the Medford) to make appropriate housing placements, share information and coordinate services. When appropriate and necessary, TSU refers offenders to residences where offenders are monitored by case managers and provided support services aimed at changing criminal behavior, such as drug abuse relapse prevention and group counseling to alter criminal thinking.

Program Justification

Research has shown that connecting offenders to housing reduces the risk of committing new crimes. As Petersilia (2003) notes, "Housing and homelessness affect recidivism (re-arrest rates)...and parolees' homelessness influences overall crime rates in the community." TSU Housing promotes safety in a way that is closely aligned with county safety principles and strategies. Using evidence-based approaches and innovative partnerships with community housing organizations, TSU Housing reduces re-offenses among extremely high-risk offenders by targeting homelessness and related factors that destabilize an offender's living situation and spur new criminal activity. Data shows that TSU Housing works: last year 73% of the offenders on TSU Housing's caseload did not re-offend.

Performance Measures

78% of high risk, high need offenders will have their cases closed successfully (i.e., offenders are complying with conditions of supervision, following through with the case plan, finding work or receiving benefits, and have no new convictions).

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

73% success rate for the clients placed in housing (Success means no new convictions, complying with conditions of supervision, following through with the case plan, and finding work or receiving benefits). Next year 78% of offenders placed in housing will have their cases closed successfully.

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

ORS 423.483: "the county, in partnership with the department, shall assume responsibility for community-based supervision, sanctions and services for offenders convicted of felonies who are:(a) On parole; (b) On probation; (c) On post-prison supervision; (d) Sentenced, on or after January 1, 1997, to 12 months or less incarceration." OAR 191-063-0005 through OAR 191-063-0040. Contracts: Medford Housing-1996 Public Safety Levy; Couch Houses -- PDC Contract (10 year contract with early penalty); Gazelle House -- IGA with HUD. ORS 182.515 mandates the use of evidence-based practices such as TSU in correctional programs.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2005 | 2005 | 2006 | 2006 |
| Program Expenses | | | | |
| Personnel | \$0 | \$0 | \$486,903 | \$0 |
| Contracts | \$98,303 | \$0 | \$423,472 | \$942,024 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$0 | \$0 | \$20,505 | \$83,800 |
| Internal Services | \$0 | \$0 | \$113,695 | \$131,203 |
| Subtotal: Direct Exps: | \$98,303 | \$0 | \$1,044,575 | \$1,157,027 |
| Administration | \$0 | \$0 | \$110,891 | \$0 |
| Program Support | \$0 | \$0 | \$457,218 | \$64,847 |
| Subtotal: Other Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$568,109 | \$64,847 |
| Total GF/non-GF: | \$98,303 | \$0 | \$1,612,684 | \$1,221,874 |
| Program Total: | \$98,303 | | \$2,834,558 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 6.00 | 0.00 |
| Program Revenues | | | | |
| Indirect for dep't Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$47,085 | \$0 |
| Intergovernmental | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1,157,027 |
| Program Revenue for Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue: | \$0 | \$0 | \$47,085 | \$1,157,027 |

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported with \$98,303 in ITAX funds; and \$1,157,027 in State Department of Corrections funds. DOC funding will most likely be reduced for the new biennium.

Significant Program Changes

DOC funding will most likely be reduced for the new biennium.