

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 40040

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Rex Surface

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Children's Receiving Center, located on the Gateway Children's Campus, is an emergency shelter for four-to-11 –year-old children removed from their home due to alleged abuse or neglect. The program provides holistic services to a vulnerable and needy population. Evaluations to date demonstrate this service's effectiveness in reducing the number of subsequent foster care placements for children. Planning for service continuation is needed, as funding through a five-year State revenue agreement ends March 2007.

Program Description

The Children's Receiving Center, operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, provides short-term shelter, food, clothing, and other appropriate services to children who have been removed from their own home or prior foster/relative care placement because of allegations of abuse, neglect or other reasons. Additional admissions include children in need of respite from their foster or relative care placement and those in need of placement planning after a failed placement. This program model supports a variety of best practices in foster care. It works particularly well for children who are new to foster care or who are part of sibling groups. This service is a cooperative effort, leveraging the resources of: Multnomah County, the City of Portland, the District Attorney, Law Enforcement Agencies, the Gateway Community Association, the Christie School, and the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Program Justification

The program seeks to make available a safe nurturing environment to child victims of alleged abuse and/or neglect. The facility based services meet the Basic Living Needs Priority as a crisis service that intervenes in preventing further behavioral deterioration of vulnerable children, that could lead to assault, victimization or other serious consequences. Services are provided in a family centered, culturally appropriate way that strengthens supports for the children and their families. The program provides comprehensive community supports and services and is specifically designed to provide immediate support for police and law enforcement officials that need emergency placement for children taken into custody. The program links to the Early Childhood Framework by reducing the incidence of alleged abuse and neglect.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY04-05)	Current Year Purchased (FY05-06)	Current Year Estimate (FY05-06)	Next Year Offer (FY06-07)
Output	Children discharged	264	300	300	290
Outcome	Sibling groups discharged together *	0%	0%	0%	75%
Outcome	Out-of-Home Placements at 18 months from discharge *	2	0	0	3

Performance Measure - Description

Children Discharged: The number of children served by the Children's Receiving Center.
Sibling Groups Discharging Together: 60% of children served are admitted with siblings. A foster care best practice is to keep these sibling groups intact. This measures the program's ability to place these sibling groups together.
Out of Home Placements: This is a measure of the effect on a child's stability beyond the time (average 5 days) spent in care. Through 2004, children discharging from the Children's Receiving Center averaged 2.65 placements compared to a control group's average of 3.99 placements. By eliminating the brief placement at the center, the average drops to 1.65 average placements for children served at the Children's Receiving Center.

* - These are new performance measures and current year information is not available.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Contracts	\$0	\$124,429	\$0	\$93,322
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$124,429	\$0	\$93,322
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$3,663	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$10,601	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$14,264	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$124,429	\$14,264	\$93,322
Program Total:	\$124,429		\$107,586	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$124,429	\$0	\$93,322
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$124,429	\$0	\$93,322

Explanation of Revenues

Five year revenue agreement with the State of Oregon Department of Human Services (July 1, 2002 thru March 31, 2007). Funding ends March 31, 2007 so this program offer is only for nine months.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25080, Gateway Children's Campus

Funding through a five-year State revenue agreement ends March 2007. Facilities, DCHS, and the Health Department each play a significant role in the services provided at the Children's Receiving Center. DCHS will prepare a report for the Chair that details issues of coordination between these County entities and seeks direction for the County's continued involvement in this service beyond expiration of State funding.