

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 25052, 25076A

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Godwin Nwerem

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Therapeutic School is a comprehensive, educational and behavioral health service for vulnerable children and youth with severe emotional/behavioral disorders that prevent them from attending a mainstream school. Therapeutic School provides an intensive setting that is specifically geared to meet children's treatment needs.

Program Description

Therapeutic School is a culturally competent service for children and youth with behavioral issues so severe they are unsafe in mainstream school settings and they could not otherwise attend school. This service is for children ages 3 - 18 who need small classroom sizes, frequent support from behavioral aides, and counselors who they can talk to when they're not able to remain in the classroom due to safety or disruptive behavioral problems. These children don't have the skills to relate to peers, adults or participate appropriately in activities, and their families frequently need assistance with day to day living tasks. Therapeutic School Services are defined as a combination of educational and comprehensive mental health services provided to assist children in stabilizing and making effective progress in the therapeutic school milieu and in all normative settings (e.g., family, child care) that support successful transition to a less intensive, less restrictive setting and/or level of care. Emphasis is on planning, providing, and coordinating a range of multi-modal services to the child and family unit, both within the classroom and in the community. While the Therapeutic School may stabilize child specific behaviors, the emphasis of treatment is on the family and ensuring healthy attachment and effective parenting. Oregon Health Plan designates funds for this specific type of service. The Mental Health and Addiction Services Division (MHASD) works with school districts in east county. Portland Public Schools has chosen to create their own therapeutic school program.

Program Justification

Therapeutic School is directly linked to the Basic Needs Priority by providing access to care that addresses the needs of the whole person, including the child's behavioral health and educational needs. Additionally, Therapeutic School links with the School Aged Policy framework by providing support to the family and caregivers by assisting parents with getting their children to school, addressing problematic behaviors that occur at home as well as assisting parents in connecting with appropriate resources. Finally, Therapeutic School has prevented children from having behavioral crises that might otherwise land them in costly acute care and/or psychiatric residential services.

Children attending Therapeutic School learn to address issues that have prevented them from achieving academic and personal success. Therapeutic School is a highly structured, nurturing environment. This type of care is expected to reduce the number of children hospitalized due to crisis and the number needed to be treated in a long term residential setting.

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	Total Unduplicated Children Served In Therapeutic School	49	49	49	52
Outcome	Percent Survey Respondents Reporting Improved Ability To Get Along With Family	0%	0%	75%	75%
Output	Percent Of Children With Improved School Behavior.	0%	0%	75%	75%

Performance Measure - Description

Therapeutic school did not submit surveys in FY 04/05.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

State of Oregon Mental Health Organization (MHO) Contract, Statement of Work. We are obligated to provide this service by the MHO contract.

Oregon Administrative Rule 309-032-0950

Community Mental Health Program obligations, Oregon Revised Statute 430.620

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Contracts	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$600,000
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$600,000
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,263
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$26,572
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$38,835
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$638,835
Program Total:	\$700,000		\$638,835	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$600,000
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$38,835
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$700,000	\$0	\$638,835

Explanation of Revenues

Oregon Health Plan revenue based on December premium rates and assuming 66,970 insured members - \$600,000.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25065, Therapeutic School