

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 25081A, 25090

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Gayle Kron

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Comprehensive recovery program for chronically homeless clients who use an extremely large amount of public safety and hospitalization dollars. These high-need, high-risk clients have serious medical/mental health problems and are addicted to alcohol/drugs. Includes case management, transitional housing, and outpatient treatment for addictions, mental health and chronic health problems.

Program Description

The Community Engagement Program (CEP) was developed to support the efforts of the Hooper Detoxification Center. Addicted, chronically homeless clients fail to respond to normal intervention efforts due to the debilitating effects of alcohol and drug abuse, mental health issues, and physical health problems and the isolating nature of chronic homelessness. CEP concentrates on clients who are uninsured and repeat utilizers of the Hooper Center's detoxification program, the criminal justice system, County health clinics, and area emergency rooms. CEP is designed to break the cycle of addiction, illness, and homelessness. Each CEP team is composed of highly qualified, experienced staff members including dual-diagnosis case managers, licensed social workers, and recovery mentors. The team also has nurse practitioners, acupuncturists, benefits and employment specialists, and housing specialists. CEP teams meet daily to review the needs of clients and to engage individuals in self-determined care. Case management is provided to address the needs of severely addicted clients with multiple diagnoses. Case management teams will assist clients to engage and remain in culturally appropriate outpatient treatment, including care for addictions, mental health and chronic health problems. Housing will be provided during the recovery and stabilization phase of the program and the case management teams will help clients move into transitional housing and successfully maintain in that housing. Both the County and the City of Portland fund this housing, with the City providing rent subsidies and funding for permanent housing placement services.

Program Justification

Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program recently tracked the medical expenses of 119 chronically homeless people. In five years the group accounted for 18,834 emergency-room visits at a minimum cost of \$1,000 per visit (total of \$18,834,000). The University of California, San Diego Medical Center followed 15 chronically homeless inebriates and found that over 18 months those 15 people were treated at the hospital's emergency room 417 times and ran up bills that averaged \$100,000 each. (The New Yorker, "Million-Dollar Murray" February 2006). This program directly links to the Basic Needs Priority by addressing the abuse of alcohol and other drugs in an extremely vulnerable, usually homeless population. Services focus on the physical and mental health of the clients. The program moves clients toward greater self-sufficiency by providing addictions treatment, housing, health care, and employment assistance which are all part of the Basic Needs priority. Further, the Community Engagement Program (CEP) is cited as a core program in the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness by directly targeting chronic homeless individuals as the client population. The CEP model is proven to increase the effectiveness of recovery efforts and lower costs with early intervention. Central City Concern has employed Louis and Associates to conduct a cost benefit analysis of the CEP program, which will compare the incidents and costs of post CEP enrollment hospitalizations, criminal justice episodes and other costs to the service costs of CEP. This evaluation should be completed by December 2006.

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 | Number of CEP case-managed clients moved into housing. | 91 | 75 | 93 | 75 |
| Outcome | Percent of CEP case-managed clients who are retained in permanent housing. | 83% | 80% | 83% | 80% |

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2006 | 2006 | 2007 | 2007 |
| Program Expenses | | | | |
| Contracts | \$1,199,859 | \$0 | \$1,199,821 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Direct Exps: | \$1,199,859 | \$0 | \$1,199,821 | \$0 |
| Administration | \$0 | \$0 | \$47,091 | \$0 |
| Program Support | \$0 | \$0 | \$136,295 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Other Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$183,386 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF: | \$1,199,859 | \$0 | \$1,383,207 | \$0 |
| Program Total: | \$1,199,859 | | \$1,383,207 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Program Revenues | | | | |
| Program Revenue for Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Explanation of Revenues

This program is 100% funded with CGF.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25040, A&D Severely Addicted Multi-Diagnosed ITAX

From July 1 2005 through December 2005, 80% of the clients in County-contracted outpatient treatment slots at Central City Concern were homeless at the time of enrollment.