

Program # 50028C - Maintain TSU Housing at Current Level

Version 7/05/2006 s

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 50027, 50029, 50030A, 50031, 50032A, 50033, 50034, 50035, 50036
Lead Agency: Community Justice
Program Contact: Kevin Criswell

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

With 245 total beds, TSU Housing provides housing to an average of 324 high-risk offenders each month, through contracted housing providers in the community. Yet, funding to provide housing and stabilize these offenders has remained at 2001 levels. Since that time, costs to operate these beds in the community have increased significantly. This scale-up would preserve 50 beds used to house high-risk offenders. Without this capacity, approximately 450 high risk offenders each year would likely become homeless and be at greater risk to flee supervision.

Program Description

TSU Housing provides short- and long-term housing to dangerous and disabled offenders, who are newly released from prison, homeless or whose housing poses public safety concerns. Currently, TSU Housing does not have enough beds to house every offender who meets this criteria. As a result, we have prioritized the highest risk, most dangerous and most vulnerable offenders -- violent offenders, sex offenders, and offenders who are mentally ill and/or disabled.

TSU works in close collaboration with community-based non-profit housing agencies to house these offenders. At the residences, offenders are monitored by case managers and they receive support services aimed at changing criminal behavior, such as drug abuse relapse prevention and group counseling to alter criminal thinking.

Because contracts with community-based housing organizations have not been increased since 2001, our partner organizations must reduce an estimated total of 50 beds to meet increased costs. Further reduction in our housing capacity means that one of our priority offender populations would no longer have access to transitional housing services.

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 is aligned with the 10-year Plan to End Homelessness and loosely linked to 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

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	Average number of offenders sheltered daily.	0	0	0	50
Outcome		0	0	0	0
Output	Average number of offenders provided housing annually.	0	0	0	450

Performance Measure - Description

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	\$0	\$492,750	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$492,750	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$29,370	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$98,613	\$16,014
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$127,983	\$16,014
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$620,733	\$16,014
Program Total:	\$0		\$636,747	
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 offer funded by county general fund \$492,750.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: