

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 50030A, 50031, 50032A, 50033, 50035, 50036, 50039, 50049A, 50052A, 50053, 50054

Lead Agency: Community Justice
Program Contact: Kevin Criswell

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Londer Learning Center (LLC) protects public safety by reducing arrests among 1,000 medium and high-risk adult offenders who are school dropouts by increasing their literacy and employability and changing their criminal thinking and behavior. LLC is the only program aimed at offenders that improves reading and math skills, supports GED completion, and promotes better decision-making. In 2004-05, nearly 100 offenders completed their GED through LLC. The US Department of Education (2003) identified LLC as a national model. LLC works: Research shows that LLC reduces arrests by 58% (Rhyne, 2001).

Program Description

PPOs and treatment providers refer nearly 1,000 high and medium risk adult offenders to the LLC for instruction in reading, math and writing; GED preparation and testing in both English and Spanish; English as a Second Language; and group counseling aimed at helping offenders correct their criminal thinking. LLC offers instruction consistent with practices proven to be effective in reading and adult learning. More than 60% of offenders who access LLC read at or below an 8th grade level. Their learning problems are compounded by substance abuse and learning disabilities. LLC this year is initiating use of PowerPath (an evidence-based tool to screen for vision, hearing, attention, and cognitive challenges) and providing offenders with prescriptive strategies to address barriers to supervision, learning, and employment. LLC actively collaborates with community agencies to increase offender employability. The staff is culturally competent: Instructors write and use adult education curriculum for the Library's Everybody Reads program, work with the Mexican Consulate on Spanish GED materials, develop cognitive change curriculum for gang members, and train community college and corrections staff statewide on learning disabilities.

Program Justification

Evidence shows that LLC lowers crime and contributes to a safer community: LLC participants have fewer parole violations, fewer new arrests, and greater employment earnings (Finnegan, 1994). In the two years after LLC, participants had 58% fewer arrests than they did in the two years prior to LLC (Rhyne, 2001). LLC is consistent with county safety priorities by using evidence-based, cost-effective and innovative programs that hold high and medium risk offenders responsible using appropriate interventions. Almost 80% of the adults in Oregon's criminal justice system are school dropouts. Research shows that low levels of education and vocational achievement are factors in criminal behavior (Gendreau, 2002) and that programs can reduce the chances of offenders committing new crimes if they target criminal thinking (Andrews, 1997). LLC addresses precisely these crime-producing factors.

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 offenders served annually	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Outcome	Percent reduction in recidivism (2 yr. pre/post felony arrest all participants)	0%	0%	58%	58%
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate one year post program exit.	0%	0%	49%	49%
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate during program participation.	0%	0%	59%	59%

Performance Measure - Description

Data for pre/post felony arrest came from program evaluation conducted internally. Recidivism is measured by new felony arrest.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

ORS 423.478 requires that "counties, in partnership with the department (of Corrections), 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." Counties may opt-out of community supervision, but only if state funding falls below baseline; currently it does not.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Personnel	\$0	\$575,085	\$0	\$611,376
Contracts	\$40,000	\$99,651	\$40,000	\$130,161
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$28,232	\$0	\$42,258
Internal Services	\$3,020	\$68,955	\$0	\$65,298
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$43,020	\$771,923	\$40,000	\$849,093
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$52,415	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$174,574	\$28,365
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$226,989	\$28,365
Total GF/non-GF:	\$43,020	\$771,923	\$266,989	\$877,458
Program Total:	\$814,943		\$1,144,447	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.30
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$32,266	\$0	\$37,103	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$771,923	\$0	\$849,093
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$32,266	\$771,923	\$37,103	\$849,093

Explanation of Revenues

This program is funded by state Department of Corrections \$810,333; county general fund \$40,000; and a \$38,760 grant from Portland Community College to serve offenders at the Learning Center who are not suitable to attend classes at local community college campuses.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50026, Londer Learning Center- Adult Sanctions & Services