

Priority: Vibrant Communities
Program Offer Type: New Program
Related Programs: 80000C, 80001C

Lead Agency: Library
Program Contact: Rita Jimenez

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This enhanced offer does not increase open hours but adds Teen Lounges in four additional neighborhood libraries (Rockwood, Sellwood-Moreland, Fairview-Columbia, and Capitol Hill), offering improved access to safe sites for teens in out-of-school hours, the peak hours for juvenile crime. Teen Lounges respond to the Education Outcome Team strategy which calls for "a broad range of additional learning opportunities and extracurricular activities that support academic success," as well as two Vibrant Communities strategies--providing a variety of cultural and recreational opportunities, particularly before and after school, and providing places and promoting opportunities for neighbors to connect. This enhanced level of service would also add bilingual staff and programs.

Program Description

Teen Lounges are temporary spaces where students complete homework assignments, receive guidance in finding informational and recreational materials, and gather together in safe spaces. Teens attend Teen Lounges weekly in library meeting rooms that have been temporarily reconfigured with computers, comfortable seating, magazines, & other items with teen appeal. On average, more than 200 teens currently use Teen Lounges in neighborhood libraries each month. Adding four new Teen Lounges would increase use by about 160 teens per month.

Program Justification

Teens in Multnomah County have consistently identified teen spaces as one of the best resources the library can provide for them. The 2004 Chapin Hall Center for Children's study "New on the Shelf: Teens in the Library" states, "More and more teenagers have been visiting public libraries because they are safe, comfortable and affordable places to do homework, use computers, and socialize after school. In turn, parents, communities, and policymakers increasingly view public libraries as part of a network of support for youth that includes schools, churches, parks and recreation centers, museums, and youth-serving organizations." Literacy specialists are recognizing the need to encourage environments that contribute to literacy development outside of school, and the lounges offer teens the opportunity to communicate with each other online as well as to use the Internet for research. According to the 2004 Oregon Population Survey, children and teenagers are the heaviest users of Oregon public libraries. Teen Lounges also help the "technology poor," reaching teens who would otherwise lack Internet access. Teen Lounges provide a place & appropriate activities for school-age children during the critical after school hours and offer learning opportunities and extracurricular activities that support academic success (Education Team strategies 4 & 5), as well as providing after school cultural & recreational opportunities and places for neighbors to connect (Vibrant Communities strategies 2 & 4).

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	Teens using Teen Lounges	0	0	0	1,920
Outcome	Staff reporting stronger relationships with teens	0%	0%	0%	85%
Outcome	Overall citizen satisfaction	96%	96%	96%	96%

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

The Library Levy language states that libraries will be open an average of 53-58 hours each.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$47,760	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$1,481	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$49,241	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$49,241	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$49,241	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$49,241	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$49,241	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This program offer would be funded by an additional transfer from the General Fund.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: