

**Priority:** Basic Needs  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating  
**Related Programs:** 25058, 25059

**Lead Agency:** County Human Services  
**Program Contact:** Sandy Haffey

**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

County is payer of last resort for individuals placed on an Emergency Psychiatric Hold in local, acute care hospitals. Staff review documented reimbursement requests from hospitals for time individuals were hospitalized on an Emergency Hold, approving or denying payment. There were 1,047 Emergency Psychiatric Holds in FY05-06, with 68% percent processed within 30 days. In FY05-06 Multnomah County paid for 665 emergency psychiatric holds as mandated by ORS 426.241.

**Program Description**

An emergency psychiatric hold is generated when a physician writes a Notice of Mental Illness because s/he believes an individual has a mental illness and is an imminent danger to himself or others. The Notice of Mental Illness enables the individual to be held in the hospital, against their will, while a pre-commitment investigator evaluates the individual and the evidence to determine if a pre-commitment hearing recommendation should be filed with the circuit court. The investigator may drop the hold, believing the individual is not a danger to himself or others, or take the case to hearing. A Judge determines the need for commitment. If committed, the individual is returned to the hospital and the case is turned over to Multnomah County Commitment Monitors/Discharge Planners. After the conclusion of the hospital stay, the Acute Care Hospital completes required steps to show that all patient financial resources for payment of the time in the hospital on an Emergency Hold have been exhausted. Once established that the patient has no financial resources to pay for the hospital time, a claim is submitted to Multnomah County. This service is mandated by Oregon Revised Statute 426.

**Program Justification**

Emergency Holds (Notice of Mental Illness) are the first step in the continuum of involuntary treatment services provided by Multnomah County pre and post commitment staff. This program links to the Basic Living Needs priority by providing payment for care and service coordination for individuals who are experiencing a mental health crisis, regardless of their insurance and/or ability to pay. This program provides payment for adequate mental health care services for those at imminent risk of danger to themselves or others due to a mental health crisis, who do not have the ability to pay for care.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Total Emergency Holds for indigent County residents	1,047	850	1,060	1,100
Outcome	% of indigent claims processed in 30 days or less	68.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%
Output		0	0	0	0

**Performance Measure - Description**

Measure tracks timeliness of claims processing for emergency psychiatric holds. The measure was in place 11/01/05.

Hospital claims must be filed with MHASD within 1 year of service. The 1 year time frame does result in a lag time in data input accuracy.

**Legal/Contractual Obligation**

ORS 426.241 obligates County as payor of last resort

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
<b>Program Expenses</b>				
Contracts	\$0	\$1,357,639	\$0	\$1,500,000
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,357,639</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>
Administration	\$0	\$46,080	\$0	\$53,703
Program Support	\$0	\$67,079	\$0	\$33,001
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$113,159</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$86,704</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,470,798</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,586,704</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$1,470,798</b>		<b>\$1,586,704</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,357,639	\$0	\$1,500,000
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$113,159	\$0	\$86,704
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,470,798</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,586,704</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

\$1,500,000 from State Mental Health Grant Award - estimated 07-09 biennium contract.

**Significant Program Changes**

Last year this program was: #25075, Emergency Holds