

Priority: Accountability
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Joint Offer

Lead Agency: Health Department
Program Contact: SHIRLEY Lillian

Executive Summary

Multnomah County's initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities will include participating in a national discussion of health disparities. Multnomah County will integrate community input, findings from disparities experts, and local data to identify current efforts as well as immediate and long-term solutions to address the root causes of disparities.

Program Description

In Multnomah County, African Americans and increasingly, Latinos, Native Americans, and Asians experience lower life expectancy, higher rates of disease, poverty, overrepresentation in the criminal justice and mental health systems. This program creates a framework for addressing disparities with an explicit focus on justice, equity and the relationship of inequities to economic and educational attainment. This offer will include an internal process of looking at local indicators and current efforts to tackle disparities and an external process lead by Chair Wheeler. The Chair will create a Disparities Elimination Board of Advisors to identify and address the underlying causes of racial and ethnic disparities. In late 2007, a PBS mini-series will explore the nation's alarming socio-economic and racial health disparities. This will provide a national backdrop for this high profile local initiative. The county will be one of 100 cities nationwide that will use the PBS series to initiate a community dialogue on the root causes of disparities and long-term solutions. Town hall meetings will convene local elected officials, community based organizations, and community members to discuss disparities and identify solutions. This offer will weave together local and national data with findings from community dialogues and disparities experts to identify immediate and long-term actions to address disparities. Evaluation activities will assure accountability.

Program Justification

African American, Latino, Asian American and other communities have experienced historical inequities that have translated into persistent income and health disparities. The County cannot address disparities in diabetes and heart disease, infant mortality and sexually transmitted diseases alone; broader community engagement is critical. This offer addresses health disparities by directly engaging communities, building upon knowledge gained from successful disparities initiatives and public dialogues launched by the Departments of Health, Community Justice, and the Library. This engagement will strengthen trust and communication between the community and government, and at the same time, strengthen and inform Multnomah County's direct service delivery system.

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	Community leaders, organizational partners & community members involved in prog	0	0	0	180
Outcome	Critical health issues identified through surveys	0	0	0	2,000
Output	Wellness education workshops conducted	0	0	0	40

Performance Measure - Description

1. 15 surveys in 12 languages to identify community leader health priorities. Defining, prioritizing, and acting upon one's own problems, is a critical first step in health promotion. 2. Community engagement is a valid initial measure of health promotion. Leading to community wellness by building or supporting strong social networks. These are key to maintaining cultural factors that protect against health risks. We will pilot this with the Asian community where we have already started some of this work. 3. Targeted educational workshops as a part of this health promotion approach tested the first year. Learning throughout the initial project year will be synthesized and developed into a long-term health promotion plan.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$238,738	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$42,309	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$35,362	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$34,100	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$350,509	\$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	\$350,509	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$350,509	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.20	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: