

Priority: Safety **Lead Agency:** Community Justice
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating **Program Contact:** Kevin Criswell
Related Programs: 50029, 50032, 50033, 50034A, 50035, 50036, 50037, 50038A, 50039

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Transitional Service Unit's (TSU) Offender Housing function annually links over 1200 recently released, high risk and violent offenders (including mentally ill and predatory sex offenders) to short and long term housing at residences managed by community partners including Central City Concern, Transition Projects, Salvation Army, VOA, Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, and YWCA. TSU provides housing to an average of 329 offenders each month. By increasing the stability of recently released offenders, TSU decreases the chance that dangerous offenders will re-offend, increases the offenders compliance with parole, and helps parole officers monitor their whereabouts. TSU Housing works: 73% of offenders in TSU housing did not re-offend.

Program Description

TSU Housing provides short and long term housing to dangerous and disabled offenders, who are newly released from prison, and are homeless or whose housing poses public safety concerns. Each month, TSU Housing provides shelter to an average of 329 offenders (1200 per year) at residences such as the Medford, Estate, Everett, Couch Street and Gazelle Houses, Glisan Street Shelter, Prescott Terrace, Harborlight, and more. TSU Housing develops a long-term housing plan for every offender placed in transitional housing. TSU Housing works closely with community providers to make appropriate housing placements, share information, and coordinate services. When appropriate and necessary, TSU refers offenders to residences where offenders are monitored by case managers and provided support services aimed at changing criminal behavior, such as drug abuse relapse prevention and group counseling to alter criminal thinking.

Program Justification

TSU Housing is consistent with the county's strategy to promote safety connecting offenders to stable housing, which research shows reduces their risk of committing new crimes (Petersilia, 2003). 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 (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Average number of offenders sheltered daily.	220	230	220	250
Outcome	Percent of offenders admitted to housing that is safe and stable upon exit.	74.0%	0.0%	80.0%	80.0%
Output	Percent of Sex Offenders in subsidized treatment who also receive housing.	38.0%	40.0%	38.0%	40.0%
Outcome	Percent of offenders that are moving toward self-sufficiency.	93.0%	0.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

 **Measure Changed**

Average number of offenders sheltered daily includes both contracted and non contracted housing.

Percent of offenders admitted to housing that is safe and stable upon exit is a new measure. This measure looks at clients that had indicated they lived in housing that was either unsafe or unstable at intake. Exit data for these same clients was reviewed again to see what percent of this cohort had found safe/stable housing upon exiting.

Percent of offenders that are moving toward self-sufficiency. This measure tracks clients that indicated they had a need for economic services at intake, e.g. 1) entitlement benefits; 2) employment services; 3) vocational training leading to employment; or 4) Oregon Health Plan. Clients needing these economic services at intake were reviewed again at exit to identify what percent had these services available to them at exit.

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.

Contracts: Medford Housing-Public Safety Levy; Couch Houses--PDC Contract (10 year contract with early penalty); Gazelle House--IGA with HUD. ORS 182.515 mandates the use of evidence-based practices such as TSU in correctional programs.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Personnel	\$527,216	\$0	\$629,905	\$0
Contracts	\$1,299,764	\$559,856	\$1,330,158	\$390,871
Materials & Supplies	\$20,565	\$85,246	\$20,825	\$84,820
Internal Services	\$79,125	\$40,556	\$88,860	\$38,247
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$1,926,670	\$685,658	\$2,069,748	\$513,938
Administration	\$157,402	\$0	\$149,844	\$0
Program Support	\$528,502	\$85,823	\$520,407	\$80,861
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$685,904	\$85,823	\$670,251	\$80,861
Total GF/non-GF:	\$2,612,574	\$771,481	\$2,739,999	\$594,799
Program Total:	\$3,384,055		\$3,334,798	
Program FTE	6.00	0.00	7.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$27,146	\$0	\$27,353	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$585,658	\$0	\$513,938
Taxes	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$0
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$27,146	\$685,658	\$27,353	\$513,938

Explanation of Revenues

County general fund \$2,069,748; State Subsidy funds \$61,888; State Department of Corrections \$452,050.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50028A, Adult Offender Housing