

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 50033, 50034A, 50035, 50036, 50038A, 50038B
Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education
Lead Agency: Community Justice
Program Contact: Carole Scholl

Executive Summary

The Londer Learning Center (LLC) reduces arrest rates and increases literacy, employability, decision-making and critical thinking skills of 1000 medium and high-risk offenders who are school dropouts. The Learning Center is the only program addressing the literacy, thinking skill and employability needs of the offender population, and has been identified as a national model by the US Department of Education (2003). The Learning Center has been demonstrated to reduce arrests of participant by 58% (Rhyne, 2001). The Learning Center collaborates with parole/probation officers, treatment providers, and employment agencies to provide comprehensive case management services targeted at managing offender risk and promoting long-term behavioral change.

Program Description

Probation/Parole Officers and treatment providers refer nearly 1000 medium and high risk offenders to the Learning Center for instruction in reading, math, and writing; bilingual (English/Spanish) GED preparation and testing; and, English as a Second Language. LLC offers instruction proven to be effective with learning disabled adults. More than 70% of offenders who access LLC read below 9th grade levels. They lack planning or problem solving skills enabling them to maintain employment, help their families, or break the cycle of crime and violence. Of the offenders referred to LLC: 42% have suspected learning disabilities or cognitive challenges, 70% suffer from substance abuse, and 75% report ADD/ADHD symptoms. Through screening, assessment, and educational intervention, LLC successfully provides offenders with strategies needed to overcome learning barriers to success. LLC actively collaborates with agencies and community colleges to increase offender employability and college transition. LLC staff is culturally competent, preparing low-literate curriculum, Spanish GED materials, problem solving lessons for gang members and train college and prison educators statewide on learning disabilities.

Program Justification

The Londer Learning Center is linked to safety and has been demonstrated to reduce new arrests (Rhyne, 2001), parole violations and to increase employment earnings (Finnegan, 1994). LLC is consistent with county safety priorities by using evidence-based practices, cost effective and innovative programs that hold high and medium risk offenders responsibly 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 targeting these issues can reduce the chance of offenders committing new crimes (Andrews, 1997). LLC addresses precisely these crime-conducive factors.

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	Number of offenders served annually.	560	1,000	650	750
Outcome		0	0	0	0
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate one year program exit.	82.0%	49.0%	75.0%	75.0%
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate during program participation.	88.0%	59.0%	80.0%	80.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Recidivism is measured by re-arrest. Current year estimate based on three month sample.

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	\$611,376	\$0	\$434,387
Contracts	\$40,000	\$130,161	\$40,000	\$140,316
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$42,258	\$0	\$68,413
Internal Services	\$0	\$65,298	\$0	\$60,523
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$40,000	\$849,093	\$40,000	\$703,639
Administration	\$52,415	\$0	\$43,197	\$0
Program Support	\$174,574	\$28,365	\$150,091	\$23,274
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$226,989	\$28,365	\$193,288	\$23,274
Total GF/non-GF:	\$266,989	\$877,458	\$233,288	\$726,913
Program Total:	\$1,144,447		\$960,201	
Program FTE	0.00	7.30	0.00	5.00
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$37,103	\$0	\$36,118	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,659,093	\$0	\$703,639
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$37,103	\$1,659,093	\$36,118	\$703,639

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund \$40,000; State Department of Corrections (DOC) \$678,639; Federal Department of Education grant \$25,000.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50037, Adult Londer Learning Center