

Priority: Accountability
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:

Lead Agency: Non-Departmental - All
Program Contact: Julie Neburka

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Elders in Action is a powerful voice and resource for local seniors. As a non-profit organization relying on the skills and talents of more than 150 volunteers, Elders in Action works to solve problems, tackle important issues and create opportunities for Portland area seniors to get involved. Our volunteer driven programs maximize resources by infusing more than \$162,000 of volunteer talent into the community each year. We work in collaboration with other public and private organizations to accomplish significant and lasting results.

Program Description

Commission members provide a powerful voice for local seniors when it comes to the issues seniors care about. These city and county-appointed volunteers regularly meet with local and state officials to provide expert advice on critical issues ranging from housing and transportation to crime, healthcare and other important services. With achievements such as initiation of the 24 hour Senior Helpline, the Housing Emergency fund, and the Elder Crimes Response Team, the Commission has enhanced the network of aging services in the region to help ensure the quality of life never depend on age. Volunteers provide Aging Awareness training for County staff and provide Elder Friendly evaluations of County services and offices so employees are better prepared to serve the growing aging population.

Program Justification

14.3% of the Multnomah County population, or 95,000, are people over the age of 60. Of those, 9.5%, or 9,000 are below poverty level. Mobility limitations impact close to one in 5 of those over age 60. And those 85+, the fastest growing segment of the population, and has increased 18% in the past decade.

The older population is more frail, less mobile and may experience vision or hearing loss, thus presenting unique challenges to social and health care systems already over-burdened. Service levels are being reduced at a time when demand is growing. In addition, our world is increasingly technical and complex which creates added difficulties for older people not familiar with technology, who may be confused, or suffering from other age-related losses or illnesses.

Elders in Action responds to these issues through the Elders in Action Commission. We tackle important issues to make services more appropriate and accessible for low-income, frail, and non-english speaking older adults through local and state advocacy. Using the results of the 2006 "Maturing of America" Study we will work to ensure Multnomah County adopts the "ten best practices" for communities to consider to address the needs of an aging population.

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	Hours of service provided by volunteers	8,000	8,500	8,500	9,000
Outcome	Percentage of advocacy successes	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Output	# of Elder Friendly evaluations completed	40	47	47	50

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

None.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
Program Expenses				
Contracts	\$68,000	\$0	\$68,000	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$68,000	\$0	\$68,000	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$68,000	\$0	\$68,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$68,000		\$68,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund-supported program.

Significant Program ChangesLast year this program was: #10022, Elders in Action