

Priority: Basic Needs **Lead Agency:** County Human Services
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Contact:** Mary Shortall
Related Programs: 25026A

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Some mental health clients with extremely complex care needs cannot recover independent functioning after state hospital placement. This offer purchases the capacity to serve ten additional clients by allowing long-term court authority and guardianship placement for these clients by, reducing the state hospital waitlist and freeing resources for other clients.

Program Description

This scaled offer purchases 1.1 FTE, adding guardianship capacity. By adding a case manager to assist deputy guardians' increase their caseloads, the program will serve ten additional chronically mentally ill incapacitated adults, responding to changing needs in this population. Currently, the primary function of the Public Guardian/Conservator program is to resolve abuse and exploitation of highly vulnerable, incapacitated adults, and ensure access to basic housing, food and medical care. In recent years, parallel to the movement towards deinstitutionalization in Oregon, it has become a common clinical belief that guardianship and conservatorship can enable placement of permanently incapacitated mentally ill adults in community settings, saving hospital bed costs, enhancing quality of life, and freeing public resources to serve other clients. This request proposes to add capacity to the public guardian's office to partner with existing Mental Health program staff, to allow provision of guardianship services to ten new high-needs mentally ill county residents, and investigate whether a small expansion in program mission can improve client service while saving resources. The addition is proposed to expand the total program caseload by ten clients from the state hospital, the hospital waiting list, or other high needs vulnerable clients identified by county mental health management.

Program Justification

The County is the primary service provider for Multnomah County residents with mental illness. Not all chronically mentally ill adults are able to regain mental and functional capacity through mental health treatment. In addition to treatment-resistant mental illness, clients often suffer from complex and life-threatening medical problems, early onset of dementia, substance abuse, long-term physical/ financial abuse, and inappropriate use of law enforcement resources, which make voluntary discharge planning impossible. These issues contribute to client inability to use community resources to avoid frequent destabilization and hospitalization. The county cost of repeatedly re-stabilizing these clients with the mental health commitment system, as well as related costs for abuse investigators, case managers, and the corrections system can often be avoided or reduced with permanent legal guardianship.

This offer links to County Basic Needs strategies to provide intervention and coordination of services that meet basic needs, ensure care for vulnerable community members, assist in obtaining permanent liveable housing, and provide access to income and food to every community member.

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	Additional clients	0	0	0	10
Outcome	Hospitalized MH clients relocated to community by program benchmark timeframe	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Measure 1 adds 10 clients to the unduplicated count in 25062A, bringing the total to 172. Other measures in 25062A will also apply to these new clients.

Measure 2 "Program benchmark timeframe" is 90 days after court appointment due to the complexity of this client population and difficulties developing placement resources.

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	\$65,523	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$4,500	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$1,329	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$7,411	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$78,763	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$3,133	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$9,234	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$12,367	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$91,130	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$91,130	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.10	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:

This a new program offer