

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Ray Hudson

Executive Summary

This pilot prevention program (with matching funds from Portland Bureau of Housing & Community Development) will offer 30 low-income, high-risk youth the opportunity to start a microenterprise. The youth will receive training in business plan development, personal development, access to capital, health and wellness support, life skills, mentoring, and linkage to social services to develop successful microenterprises. The goal is to increase their incomes by at least 25%. The Portland Economic Opportunity Initiative has funded over 30 successful workforce projects, but this pilot will be the first to offer microenterprise support to youth.

Program Description

In 2004 the Portland Economic Opportunity Initiative, coordinated through City of Portland's Bureau of Housing and Community Development, initiated a collaborative system of small economic support projects aimed at increasing the income of targeted low-income residents by at least 25 percent. More than 30 small projects involving microenterprise, youth workforce, and adult workforce initiatives have been funded. However, all the youth projects involved traditional workforce approaches that attempt to steer the youth into traditional existing job placements. This pilot will provide youth the opportunity to develop enterprises such as web site design, food carts, bakeries, small crafts and manufacturing businesses. Approximately 30 youth will be provided support services over a 3 year period with the goal of increasing their income by at least 25% by helping them develop microenterprises. This cooperative effort includes City of Portland, Northwest Area Foundation, United Way and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. County funds would be leveraged 100% through other contributions and procured competitively. The program would not be limited to the City of Portland geographic area or Portland youth.

Program Justification

This program supports Basic Needs priority by increasing income and self-sufficiency for high-risk youth. It links to the School Aged Policy Framework by providing supports for school-aged youth. Poverty is a key risk factor for substance abuse and other risky youth behaviors. The American Dream - hope for a successful life through hard work - fosters success and lowers problem behaviors. Yet youth employment opportunities are few - a limited number of family wage jobs, many entry-level jobs at or below poverty, and low long-term stability for high paying jobs. This pilot will provide opportunities to 30 high-risk youth and demonstrate the value of youth microenterprise development projects. It is provided through an existing collaborative network funding multiple providers that run small economic opportunity projects with a proven record of fostering successful microenterprise startups and increasing incomes of low-income clients.

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	Clients served over 3 years	0	0	0	30
Outcome	Average % increase in client income over three years	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Outcome	Clients launching new business during 1st year of service	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	35.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Key to success of this program are intensive support services, costing approximately \$6,000 per youth. This limits the number of youth served to about 30. Additional measures of program intensity will be developed during the procurement/contracting phase of the project depending on the details of the program approach. More than 30 youth would be served initially to allow for normal attrition.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

The project should be continued for a period of no less than three years in order to demonstrate successful outcomes.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$4,755	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$11,420	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$16,175	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$91,175	\$75,000
Program Total:	\$0		\$166,175	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$75,000
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$75,000

Explanation of Revenues

CGF revenues of \$75,000 would be matched 100% with collaborative funding.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25108, A & D Prevention - Youth Microenterprise
Last year this program offer was submitted as a new program but was not funded.