

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Jana McLellan

Executive Summary

Bridges to Housing (B2H) is a regional program providing supportive housing opportunities for high resource using, homeless families. It is a key component of the Multnomah County-City of Portland Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. B2H addresses the cycle of multi-generational homelessness. This innovative program demonstrates the positive impact of supportive housing in assisting high-need homeless families to overcome substantial barriers to success and raise children in a stable family setting.

Program Description

Bridges to Housing provides two years of intensive case management, childcare subsidies, wraparound funds, and access to mainstream services such as mental health and substance abuse treatment for adults and children to low income, high resource using and homeless families. Families are placed into existing Section 8 permanent affordable housing or other subsidized housing. The program funds pay for the supportive services. Intensive services are strengths-based, designed to help the family maintain their housing, and give them the tools and service connections that will allow them to remain in stable housing at the end of the two years of support services. The entire program will house 900 homeless families over the course of ten years. The funding request in this program offer will fund services for approximately forty five homeless families in Multnomah County which will be used as the pilot programs for the larger Bridges to Housing program.

B2H represents a commitment to achieve significant individual, family and system outcomes through a realignment of the homeless family housing and services in the four-county metropolitan area: Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington State. Governments and service providers have joined together, along with cities and housing authorities in the four-county region, to jointly develop B2H. This is a significant step forward in coordination, building a regional framework, and implementing best practices. These programs and their successes will be used to leverage \$20 million or more in government and foundation contributions. The services funded by this program offer are paired with units of housing already funded by the City of Portland's commitment.

Program Justification

The program meets the Basic Living Needs (BLN) priority area goals in it's holistic approach focused on coordinated service that addresses the multiple and complex needs of families. It is centered in the ideal of "transition to self-sufficiency". This program offer meets the BLN priority in that it provides intervention and coordination of services, "assures care for vulnerable members of the community", and "promotes healthy behaviors". Bridges to Housing is a regional program including Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, and Clark Counties as well as the housing authorities in these counties and all of the major cities. This program is the most important family component of the City of Portland/Multnomah County Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. B2H enhances the infrastructure that supports the provision of basic living needs services and assists people in obtaining permanent, affordable, and livable housing.

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	High resource using homeless families served over two years	0	45	0	36
Outcome	% of families served remain in permanent housing after two years	0.0%	70.0%	0.0%	70.0%
Outcome	Chronically homeless households moved into permanent housing	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	20.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Bridges to Housing is administered by the Neighborhood Partnership Fund (NPF), a non-profit organization which brings its innovative leadership and resources to bear to support the creation of affordable homes, healthy communities, and economic opportunities for low-income households. The Regional Steering Committee is supported by a multi-jurisdictional Coordinating Team, a providers subcommittee, and the Evaluation Committee. In each county, teams meet regularly to ensure smooth implementation of B2H and to coordinate the dedication of locally controlled resources to the effort.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
Program Expenses				
Contracts	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$731,308	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$731,308	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$731,308	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,000,000		\$731,308	
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

County General Fund directly supports the B2H initiatives; the dollars included in this program offer reflect the unspent commitment of contracted dollars for this program.

Significant Program Changes

✔ Significantly Changed

Last year this program was: #25114, Bridges to Housing