

Priority: Safety **Lead Agency:** Community Justice
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Contact:** Carl Jaber
Related Programs: 50030, 50035, 50036, 50038A, 50038B, 50039, 50040, 50045

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program offer addresses a gap in the public safety system by creating the capacity to supervise and change the behavior of approximately 600 offenders convicted of misdemeanor offenses (250 on active supervision in the first year), which were cut in FY 2006-2007, with over 600 cases returned to the court. Many of these offenders are mentally ill or have chronic drug and alcohol problems. For others, their misdemeanor offense is a potential precursor to the commission of increasingly serious offenses in the future. Over the last several years, budget reductions affecting all areas of Multnomah County's criminal justice system, including the loss of misdemeanor probation for all but the most serious person offenses, have substantially limited the sentencing options for the Court. This offer would re-establish probation supervision as a sentencing option for the court to respond effectively to this stream of offenders, and provide a means to hold mid-level offenders accountable.

Program Description

This program responds to an unmet gap in the public safety system – the need to hold accountable people who have committed crimes that cannot sustain felony-level charges, but still represent a threat to persons and property. Currently DCJ lacks capacity to supervise these mid-level crimes under formal supervision, as do the courts who are already struggling with the burden of over 14,000 misdemeanor cases on bench probation (supervised by a judge).

Misdemeanor supervision provides direct supervision and case management by a probation officer that reduces the risk that misdemeanor offenders will commit new crimes and become further involved in the justice system. Misdemeanor supervision uses evidence-based practices to hold misdemeanor offenders accountable and reduce their risk to re-offend. Research shows that this balanced approach between supervision, sanctions and behavior change services reduces re-offending, while incarceration alone actually increases re-offending (Andrews, 1994).

Program Justification

This scale-up offer holds medium risk offenders accountable, which fills a gap in the county's streams of offenders model (currently DCJ can only supervise most person misdemeanor cases). This offer would provide the county justice system with viable sentencing options and will ensure that all misdemeanor probationers are able to be supervised by a probation officer. Misdemeanor probation supervision works: nearly 75% of Multnomah County misdemeanor probationers do not re-offend within three years of their offense.

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	Average number of offenders supervised.	600	0	0	250
Outcome	Percent of probationers who did not recidivate.	78.5%	0.0%	0.0%	78.5%

Performance Measure - Description

Recidivism is measured by a three year felony conviction rate. Recidivism data reflect cohorts who entered supervision three years ago. DOC has discontinued reporting misdemeanor recidivism. DCJ ran a sample of 500 misdemeanants to approximate recidivism for this group of offenders.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Although the supervision of misdemeanor cases is not funded by the state, functions are authorized under ORS 137 and 144, and OARs 291-065-0005 through 0007.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$425,103	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$1,430	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$476,533	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$21,724	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$23,827	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$45,551	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$522,084	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$522,084	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	5.50	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County general fund \$476,533

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:

For fiscal year 2007, this program offer was included as a part of 50031.