

Priority: Basic Needs

Lead Agency: County Human Services

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Mary Li

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Energy Services (ES) ensure that approximately 14,228 fixed and low-income households have access to safe and sufficient energy in their homes. By offering weatherization (WX) repair and replacement to approximately 550 households, and direct utility payments to approximately 13,678 households, energy education, and case management, services help households manage and pay for their energy costs. Services prevent utility shutoff for vulnerable households. According to a recent State OHCS study services creates \$1.78 of economic activity within the County for every one dollar invested in WX. Services are primarily state and federally funded.

Program Description

WX Repair and Replacement provides energy use audits, weatherization, and appliance replacement to fixed and low income households; services are provided by County staff and vendors. In FY 06-07 over 53,000 households were income eligible for service; of those, 550 were served. Energy Payment Assistance works through 9 community agencies to make utility payments for fixed and low-income households. In FY 06-07 over 53,000 households were income eligible for service; of those, 13,678 were served. Services are part of the SUN Service System (SUNSS), a countywide integrated and coordinated system of care for school age youth and their families. Energy Education helps fixed and low-income households understand their energy use and provides the tools - such as light bulbs, window stripping, shower heads, etc... - necessary to better control energy expenses. All households receiving services receive education on how to reduce energy costs. Case Management supports self-sufficiency for up to 80 households annually.

Program Justification

ES is a key component of the County's efforts to meet Basic Living Needs (BLN) Priority: "All Multnomah County residents and their families are able to meet their basic living needs". ES contributes to BLN Indicator: "% of community members not living in poverty" and all BLN Factors by increasing household self-sufficiency and improving local economic conditions through energy conservation. Energy costs disproportionately affect low-income households. Dept of Energy (DOE) estimates low-income households pay an average of 12.6% of their income for energy expenses compared with 2.7% for the average household. In some fixed income households energy costs can reach as high as 35%. DOE estimates WX households save an average \$274.00 annually in energy costs. WX provides jobs for local contractors and revenue for businesses who supply materials, and indirectly creates another 1.25 jobs in Oregon for every administrative position funded.

National research indicates that WX has multiple "non-energy related" benefits including affordable housing preservation, regional energy conservation, long-term home improvement, safer housing conditions, and improved physical health. Locally, Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that WX increases household property values, maintains affordable housing, and improves the environment through reduced consumption of fossil fuels.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	# of households served	14,228	14,000	14,554	15,300
Outcome	% of households w/shutoff notices served that avoid shutoff	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Output	# of affordable housing units maintained for 10 years	326	350	344	200

Performance Measure - Description

Weatherization of multi-family buildings requires landlord commitment to a minimum 10 years of affordability. It's one of the best ways to preserve and improve the quality of current affordable housing stock.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$85,350	\$849,893	\$85,350	\$959,892
Contracts	\$6,200	\$1,098,510	\$6,200	\$1,125,012
Materials & Supplies	\$29,970	\$6,694,717	\$45,807	\$7,849,311
Internal Services	\$133,689	\$389,705	\$184,183	\$375,850
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$255,209	\$9,032,825	\$321,540	\$10,310,065
Administration	\$325,687	\$0	\$40,310	\$0
Program Support	\$308,737	\$0	\$32,348	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$634,424	\$0	\$72,658	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$889,633	\$9,032,825	\$394,198	\$10,310,065
Program Total:	\$9,922,458		\$10,704,263	
Program FTE	0.94	11.56	0.92	12.57
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$176,430	\$0	\$171,013	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$8,732,825	\$0	\$9,960,066
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$300,000	\$0	\$349,999
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$176,430	\$9,032,825	\$171,013	\$10,310,065

Explanation of Revenues

Oregon Housing and Community Services (State and Federal dollars) - \$9,822,567
 City of Portland - \$137,499
 Rebates - \$349,999
 County General Fund - \$321,540

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25119A, Energy Services