

Priority: Vibrant Communities **Lead Agency:** County Human Services
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Joint Offer, One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

This offer requests \$100,000 in County General Funds to support a cross jurisdictional community-based participatory research project to gather updated population counts and comprehensive community needs for 6 culturally specific populations of Multnomah County. The two goals of the data collection project are accurate population counts and a thorough critical needs assessment that will make it possible to better serve the culturally specific communities in Multnomah County. This data will be used by multiple jurisdictions for the purposes of understanding cultural communities, planning, program development and funding. This is a joint offer between DCHS, Community Justice and the Health Department.

Program Description

This project will use an evidenced based approach to gathering updated population counts and comprehensive needs within 6 cultural communities of Multnomah County. The populations are: African American, African Immigrant, Asian Pacific Islander, Latino, Native American and Slavic. This approach is called community-based participatory research. A competitive procurement will be developed, in concert with three County Departments and the Coalition for Communities of Color, to develop the research model and select the contractor to carry out the work. A qualified research contractor will be selected to work with the six identified communities in Multnomah County to 1) identify priority need areas and 2) produce accurate, community validated population data. Organizations representing each community will work to design data collection techniques and measures and to support the research agency in generating community participation. Community-based participatory research utilizes not only a more respectful data-collection process (research with, rather than research "on"), but produces more accurate, reliable, and useful information.

This research project is a cross departmental, cross jurisdictional community-wide effort. United Way has expressed a strong interest in this project; the City of Portland and the NW Health Foundation will be approached to support this effort. The County will not pursue the project without partner financial support. Multnomah County DCHS will be the fiscal agent and manager of the overall project however Community Justice and the Health Department will be fully engaged in this work.

Program Justification

Multnomah County is committed to providing quality culturally specific services that meet the diverse needs of the community. Census data has historically undercounted communities of color for a variety of documented reasons. An updated, rigorous population research project will result in data that can be used across jurisdictions. A qualified research entity that has established credibility with culturally specific communities will work with all partners to design and implement this project. Examples of critical need areas are: the number of children in foster care; poverty rates; the number of youth in the juvenile justice system; health and social needs; rates of domestic violence and high school graduation rates. Jurisdictions joining together is much more efficient. The data will be made available to the entire community.

Multnomah County needs accurate, relevant data and a thorough needs assessment in order to make well-informed decisions about resource distribution and appropriate service models for culturally specific communities. This project will develop updated information. The County will not pursue the project if partner funding is not secured.

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	Number of culturally-specific community planning sessions. ¹	0	0	0	18
Outcome	Number of culturally-specific reports produced. ²	0	0	0	6

Performance Measure - Description

¹A minimum of three planning meetings for each of 6 culturally-specific groups.

²One report per culturally-specific group.

Legal/Contractual Obligation**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$100,000	
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 Funds requested

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: