

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: Library

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Jane Salisbury

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Adult Outreach Services delivers books and other library materials and basic library services to adults who cannot come to library buildings or who cannot read or write in English.

Program Description

Adult Outreach delivers books and other library materials and services to Multnomah County residents who are homebound, or who live in nursing homes, retirement centers, adult care homes, shelters, transition homes, or jails (the latter in partnership with the Sheriff's Office). Adult Outreach, in partnership with other literacy organizations, also supports people whose first language is not English, or who do not know how to speak, read, or write English by providing books, library programs, and other literacy materials. Delivering books, reading to homebound people, leading book discussion groups for seniors, teaching citizenship classes, and tutoring and facilitating English conversation sessions for non-native speakers provide volunteers with meaningful opportunities for community interaction and involvement. This program will also administer a 2-year collaborative project "Life by Design N.W." with Portland Community College.

Program Justification

More than 22,000 County residents are 65+ and live alone. As the baby boom generation ages, the needs of many more older adults are becoming apparent. Research shows that social isolation can cause depression, disengagement, & loss of community for those homebound, displaced, or simply alone. More than 21,000 inmates are confined each year in County jails. For both older and incarcerated people, a connection to library services provides participation in civic life, culture & social exchange, and ongoing learning opportunities. Adult Outreach connects these people and others in nursing homes, retirement centers, adult care homes, shelters, & transition homes with books and other library materials, parenting classes, book discussion groups & other services. For immigrants, refugees, & others who need help with English, Adult Outreach provides books & literacy support. Research shows that literacy is key to a skilled workforce and reduces poverty and homelessness. Adult Outreach staff and volunteers engage marginalized County residents, providing them with learning and recreational opportunities to help them improve and enjoy their lives. This program focuses on strategies #2, 3 & 4, "providing opportunities for neighbors to connect and interact," "promoting literacy and a lifetime of learning" & "providing a variety of cultural and recreational opportunities" to help achieve a vibrant sense of community.

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	Senior group book discussions	240	180	262	300
Outcome	Increased interpersonal and community connections	0.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Output	Facilitated English conversation sessions for non-native speakers	102	150	104	150
Output	Senior centers served	80	50	112	112

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure No. 26-81 "Renew Five-Year Local Option Levy to Continue Library Services", November 2006 General Election – The levy language reads: "Continue programs for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, programs for teens; Help teachers and students use library resources; Provide homework helpers to assist children with school work; Maintain free access to information; Update books and materials; Continue books delivery to homebound seniors and nursing home residents; Open planned libraries in underserved neighborhoods of East County and North Portland; Keep libraries open; Maintain current hours and services at Central and neighborhood libraries."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2008	2008	2009	2009
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$558,781	\$0	\$623,920
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$9,100	\$0	\$22,581
Internal Services	\$0	\$25,101	\$0	\$20,492
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$592,982	\$0	\$666,993
Administration	\$0	\$50,503	\$0	\$52,121
Program Support	\$0	\$48,554	\$0	\$54,857
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$99,057	\$0	\$106,978
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$692,039	\$0	\$773,971
Program Total:	\$692,039		\$773,971	
Program FTE	0.00	7.75	0.00	7.75
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$723,971
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$723,971

Explanation of Revenues

The Library Fund revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (66%) and library-generated revenues such as book fines, interest earnings, and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (6%). General Fund revenue represents about 28% of the Library's total revenue.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #80007, Adult Outreach
No significant changes.