

Priority: Basic Needs

Lead Agency: Health Department

Program Offer Type: Program Alternative /

Program Contact: WICKHAM Lila A

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program builds on the success of the Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) and Healthy Homes projects expanding our capacity to improve the health of our community's most vulnerable children. Poor families suffer higher rates of chronic diseases such as asthma, obesity, and diabetes. This program adds the capacity for another HEAL project in Multnomah County, replicating and improving on what we have learned from a pilot in North Portland. In addition, this program funds the Healthy Rental Housing Initiative, a plan to address health disparity resulting from poorly maintained rental housing by working with housing inspectors to improve code enforcement in Multnomah County. The housing initiative will also identify and track families and children whose health is negatively impacted by housing conditions; and provide community outreach and education.

Program Description

To address high rates of obesity and diabetes affecting poor families, we need to focus on the complex ways that individual lifestyles and behaviors are affected by interpersonal relationships, environmental factors and public policy. This program will work with communities and organizational partners in East County to identify and address systemic barriers to healthy active living. The model for this approach is the North Portland HEAL Coalition, which works with children and families in the Portsmouth and St. Johns neighborhoods. This group of partners -- including SUN School Program, Portland State University, Kaiser Permanente, Portland Public Schools and Portland Parks & Rec — targets the multitude of factors that contribute to obesity and chronic disease. Separately, to combat the high rate of asthma among poor children in our community, the Healthy Rental Housing Initiative will pay to train city housing code inspectors in identifying housing conditions that can exacerbate asthma and other health conditions. This component helps ensure enforcement of new, more stringent housing codes adopted recently by Portland and Gresham. The initiative also will create a website that enables doctors and nurses to request a housing inspection if they suspect substandard housing is triggering a child's asthma. This innovative program will track families and children through the rental housing inspection and code violation remediation process. Finally, a health educator will work with landlords and tenants in a partnership approach to maintaining healthy living environments.

Program Justification

This program offer expands our effectiveness and capacity to prevent chronic disease in our children through policy change, partnerships and addressing multiple complex factors that contribute to healthy environments. The strategies engage and convene a broad array of citizens to address the root causes of chronic disease. HEAL gathers participants across generations -- students, parents, teachers, community residents,-- to identify culturally-relevant ways to promote healthy eating and physical activity. The Healthy Rental Housing Initiative arises from a department's two-year, community needs assessment that identified healthy affordable housing as a significant community priority. Specifically, the process identified mold, trash, lead, and feeling like an ignored community as primary concerns. As a result, a collaborative of community agencies successfully strengthened rental housing code in Gresham and the City of Portland. Health and housing code improvements are now pending in other county jurisdictions. Ensuring that these new housing codes are effective will require: consistent inspection practices; better gateways to identify families living in substandard housing; and a process for informing landlords and tenants about the connection of health and housing. This initiative will directly reduce health disparities by ensuring families in poverty have equitable access to healthy food, exercise opportunities, and healthy housing conditions.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY07-08)	Current Year Purchased (FY08-09)	Current Year Estimate (FY08-09)	Next Year Offer (FY09-10)
Output	# of local residents participating in program coalitions	0	0	0	35
Outcome	# of families receiving an inspection based on medical provider referral	0	0	0	90
Output	# of Inspectors and Property Mgrs trained	0	0	0	25

Performance Measure - Description

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2009	2009	2010	2010
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$235,170	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$41,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$14,050	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$18,356	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$308,576	\$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	\$308,576	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$308,576	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:

Additional Local 88 positions were funded using funds made available by Local 88's approval of a wage freeze for FY 2010.