

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education

Lead Agency: Community Justice
Program Contact: Kevin Criswell

Executive Summary

Londer Learning Center (LLC) promotes public safety by addressing low employability, lack of education and poor behavioral skills of offenders—prime risk factors which, if unaddressed, lead to increased crime, re-incarceration and unpaid restitution to victims. LLC’s program outcomes and collaboration with Parole/Probation Officers (PPOs), courts, judges, treatment providers, community colleges and employment agencies earned recognition as a national program model by the US Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

Program Description

PPOs, treatment providers and courts annually refer over 650 medium and high risk offenders for instruction in employment skills, GED, reading, writing, math and bilingual English courses. More than 70% of offenders accessing LLC read below 9th grade levels; 90% cannot do math at 5th grade levels; 42% have suspected learning disabilities; 70% suffer from substance abuse and attention deficits. Instruction focuses on increasing academic skills and addressing attention difficulties, learning disabilities and behavioral problems that inhibit offenders' ability to find and maintain employment. Employment courses teach offenders interviewing skills, job search techniques and overcoming barriers caused by criminal histories. Collaboration with Portland Community College allows for transition to vocational courses and links with Worksource Centers provide employment pathways.

Despite serving this high risk population, LLC annually meets or exceeds performance standards set by Oregon’s Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development for reading in college basic skills programs. The program design allows offenders to start class immediately, and flexible scheduling allows them to meet other supervision requirements such as employment and treatment. Instructors at LLC use cognitive behavioral change and motivational interviewing techniques to elicit change in offenders.

Program Justification

LLC supports public safety by reducing new arrests, supervision violations (Rhyne, 2001), increasing offenders’ employment earnings (Finnegan, 1994), and holding medium and high risk offenders accountable in a structured setting. Large percentages of inmates within Oregon prisons and jails are school dropouts. Criminal behavior is more likely in adults with low levels of education and vocational training (Gendreau 2002). Offenders who receive basic literacy instruction during or after incarceration are less likely to return to prison.

For high risk offenders, barriers such as inflexible schedules, fees and waiting lists deter enrollment and success in community college basic skills programs. LLC provides instant access to no-fee classes and schedules that allow offenders to meet probation requirements.

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	Number of offenders served annually	654	630	660	660
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate within one year of program exit	77.0%	75.0%	75.0%	79.0%
Outcome	Percent of participants who did not recidivate during program participation	91.0%	70.0%	85.0%	89.0%
Output	Number of GED graduates annually*	37	0	68	75

Performance Measure - Description

 **Measure Changed**

*This is a new measure.

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	\$456,893	\$0	\$509,893
Contracts	\$40,000	\$151,152	\$28,888	\$147,752
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$36,855	\$0	\$39,308
Internal Services	\$0	\$58,346	\$0	\$74,544
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$40,000	\$703,246	\$28,888	\$771,497
Administration	\$38,870	\$0	\$38,240	\$0
Program Support	\$147,788	\$20,762	\$163,124	\$23,721
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$186,658	\$20,762	\$201,364	\$23,721
Total GF/non-GF:	\$226,658	\$724,008	\$230,252	\$795,218
Program Total:	\$950,666		\$1,025,470	
Program FTE	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.30
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$34,900	\$0	\$44,611	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$703,246	\$0	\$771,497
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$34,900	\$703,246	\$44,611	\$771,497

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund \$28,888; DOE PCC Londer \$34,677; State Department of Corrections (DOC) \$736,820

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50040, Adult Londer Learning Center

During FY 2009 a grant funded 0.50 FTE Basic Skills Educator position was added to this program. In FY 2010 an existing Basic Skills Educator position is reduced by 0.20 FTE, with no programmatic impact. These two changes in FTE result in a net 0.30 FTE increase.