

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: Library

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Jane Salisbury

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Adult Outreach provides library services and programs to Multnomah County residents underserved by traditional library means, including older adults, new immigrants, people with disabilities, adult learners, institutionalized people, and homeless people. Adult Outreach delivers books and other materials, provides resources, conducts classes and other programs, and partners with community agencies.

Program Description

Adult Outreach delivers books and other library materials and services to Multnomah County residents who are homebound, or who live in assisted living facilities, retirement homes, 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 assistance, resources, and library programs. Adult Outreach partners with Life by Design NW, reaching out to older adults with programs and resources to assist them with employment, civic engagement and life planning. Delivering books, reading to homebound people, leading book discussion groups for seniors, teaching citizenship classes, leading book groups in the jails and leading English conversation practice sessions provide meaningful opportunities for volunteers, working with outreach staff, to contribute significantly to the lives of vulnerable citizens.

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 assisted living facilities, retirement homes, 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 reading and English, Adult Outreach provides citizenship classes, conversation practice, and access to literacy resources. 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.

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	Book discussion groups for seniors	240	300	248	248
Outcome	Increased community engagement	90.0%	90.0%	0.0%	90.0%
Output	Facilitated English conversation sessions for non-native	101	150	150	250
Output	Senior centers served	112	112	115	115

Performance Measure - Description

Outcome measure is based on a biannual survey; survey was last conducted in 07-08 and will be conducted again in 09-10.

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
	2009	2009	2010	2010
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$623,920	\$0	\$676,906
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$22,581	\$0	\$17,500
Internal Services	\$0	\$20,492	\$0	\$34,649
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$666,993	\$0	\$762,055
Administration	\$0	\$52,121	\$0	\$165,608
Program Support	\$0	\$54,857	\$0	\$54,184
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$106,978	\$0	\$219,792
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$773,971	\$0	\$981,847
Program Total:	\$773,971		\$981,847	
Program FTE	0.00	7.75	0.00	8.25
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$975,834
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$975,834

Explanation of Revenues

The Library Fund revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (64%) and library-generated revenues such as overdue fines, interest earnings, Library Fund balance and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (12%). General Fund revenue represents about 24% of the Library's total revenue.

The Sheriff's Office provides \$35,000 for services to jails from the Inmate Welfare Fund; assessment and coordination of services to baby boomers is being funded by a Library Services & Technology (LSTA) grant from the State Library (\$33,000) and from a Life by Design NW grant (\$50,000).

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #80007, Adult Outreach

Increase of .50 FTE for a limited duration position funded by a Life by Design NW grant.