

Lead Agency: Community Justice

Program Contact: Janice Ashe

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

Exposure to parental conflict and the potential loss of a parent through divorce and separation places children at risk for delinquency, teen pregnancy and poor school performance, all of which can lead to a cycle of dysfunction and offending behavior. Family Court Services (FCS) helps keep children safe, parents healthy, families stable and promotes public safety through services to approximately 1,000 at risk families as they go through separation and divorce. Through parent education, mediation, evaluation, information and referral services, and support to the dependency court, FCS stabilizes families involved with the Family Court and plays a critical role in preventing family dysfunction and juvenile delinquency.

Program Description

FCS provides divorce and parenting information to over 2000 Multnomah County parents experiencing the major life crisis of separation or divorce through its parent education program. Additional intensive services in the form of child custody mediation (1,000 parental couples per year) and child custody evaluation (150 studies per year) assists families experiencing higher levels of conflict to resolve their disputes. Reducing parental conflict during separation decreases risks for delinquency and teen pregnancy, decreases subsequent litigation and increases children’s meaningful contact with both parents (Wallerstein 1998; Emery 2001; Sarkadi et al. 2008).

In addition FCS supports statewide efforts, spearheaded by the governor, to reduce the overall foster care population and to eliminate disproportionate overrepresentation of African American and Native American youth in foster care. To support these efforts, FCS manages a position that serves as a liaison to the family court judiciary for community-based programs and agencies, coordinates the efforts of the model court program, advocates and coordinates implementation of best practices, staffs judicial meetings, and partners with the Chief Family Law Judge as a point of contact for foster care reform.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY08-09)	Current Year Purchased (FY09-10)	Current Year Estimate (FY09-10)	Next Year Offer (FY10-11)
Output	Percent of custody/parenting time evaluations resulting in settlement	82.0%	0.0%	80.0%	80.0%
Outcome	Percent of clients satisfied with parent education classes	90.0%	92.0%	90.0%	92.0%

Performance Measure - Description

 **Measure Changed**

Output is new.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2010	2010	2011	2011
Personnel	\$77,648	\$900,334	\$104,134	\$873,675
Contracts	\$10,000	\$54,710	\$10,000	\$54,710
Materials & Supplies	\$18,082	\$32,509	\$1,860	\$47,994
Internal Services	\$20	\$171,327	\$0	\$163,741
Total GF/non-GF:	\$105,750	\$1,158,880	\$115,994	\$1,140,120
Program Total:	\$1,264,630		\$1,256,114	
Program FTE	0.80	9.60	1.00	8.60
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$71,443	\$0	\$71,355	\$0
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$1,071,298	\$0	\$1,079,795
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$34,624	\$0	\$37,645
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$74,079	\$0	\$22,680
Total Revenue:	\$71,443	\$1,180,001	\$71,355	\$1,140,120

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund plus Family Court Services(FCS) revenue \$1,102,475 (including BWC). (FCS revenue comes from a surcharge on filing fees for divorce and custody cases, fees for parent education and evaluation services, and a portion of the marriage license fee dedicated to conciliation services.); OR Dept of Justice Grant \$37,645

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #50009, DCJ Family Court Services