

Lead Agency: Sheriff

Program Contact: Ned Walls

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

While seniors comprise of just 13% of the U.S. general population, they possess 50% of the total wealth, making them disproportionately targeted for financial fraud and abuse. Persons over the age of 85 are the fastest growing demographic in Multnomah County. After the age of 85, the risk associated with abuse, exploitation and self-neglect increases significantly. In late 2008, utilizing grant funds, MCSO assigned one Detective to work on elder abuse cases, but the funds were limited. In partnership with Multnomah County Adult Protective Services and District Attorney's Office, MCSO was successful in November 2009 in receiving a grant award through a Congressional earmark to fund one Elder Abuse Detective. This program provides for the investigation of crimes committed against the elderly including those involving personal injury, fraud, financial theft to include property crimes.

Program Description

Financial abuse among the elderly is devastating – whether the victim is young, old, healthy, ill, strong, vulnerable or disabled. The elderly spend their lives accumulating wealth so that they can afford to enjoy their retirement years. When their retirement funds are depleted, they may not have a way of replenishing savings and often become completely dependent on the state to meet their most basic needs. This destroys the elderly person's sense of security, and also their physical health, but also costs taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars every year in Medicaid expenses.

Working collaboratively within the Financial Abuse Special Team (FAST) guidelines, this program seeks to contribute investigative resources to this growing community problem. MCSO has established a relationship with APS and this Elder Abuse Detective operates from APS headquarters, working directly with APS members and a deputy district attorney. FAST is designed to be more responsive to elder financial exploitation than the system previously in place.

Until 2009, there was no specialized law enforcement team in place to specifically address this problem. This Elder Abuse Detective is available 24/7 to take calls from victims and answer questions from public safety and private sector members.

The primary purpose of the Elder Abuse Detective is to help victims – current victims, future victims, potential victims. When elders are financially abused the best way to help them is to give them a sense of justice through effective investigation and prosecution which can result in restitution as part of the judgment. This detective will work directly with victims and answer their questions about their cases, write affidavits, execute search warrants and subpoenaing financial information from lending agencies.

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	Total Elder Abuse cases reviewed	0	0	0	43
Outcome	Total Elder Abuse cases resulting in a criminal investigation	0	0	0	15
Outcome	Total Elder Abuse cases referred to the DA	0	0	0	5
Output	Number of people trained in elder abuse	0	0	0	25

Performance Measure - Description

Fully funded previous years negates applicable output and outcome performance measures.

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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,006
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,190
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,196
Program Total:	\$0		\$32,196	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$0	\$0	\$1,680	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$32,196
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$1,680	\$32,196

Explanation of Revenues

\$32,196 - Congressional Award for FAST/Elder Crimes Detective received in September of 2009 supports funding of this deputy sheriff FTE through the grant end of September 30, 2010.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: