

Lead Agency: County Human Services

Program Contact: Mary Li

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Family Economic Security Project helps working families claim the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other available state/federal tax credits. We also work with employers to provide free tax preparation assistance and financial literacy at the workplace. This project will involve 50 local employers, provide direct tax preparation assistance to 1000 employees and secure \$1.26 million in federal and state tax benefits for low- and moderate-income families.

Program Description

The EITC provides tax benefits to low- and moderate-income workers with children and has been called the nation's largest anti-poverty program. This proposal gives direct assistance to employers to set up workplace EITC campaigns, which includes free tax assistance for employees, tax credit information, and financial education resources. Specific activities under this proposal include:

- (a) County staff and a contracted provider working with local employers to provide information and support for company sponsored EITC campaigns, informing their employees about the program and helping with enrollment.
- (b) Employees access free tax preparation services, thus avoiding costly fees for tax preparation and predatory "refund anticipation loans."
- (c) Employees receive financial education through materials and workplace education sessions.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY09-10)	Current Year Purchased (FY10-11)	Current Year Estimate (FY10-11)	Next Year Offer (FY11-12)
Output	# of employers participating	40	50	50	50
Outcome	Participants whose yearly income is lifted above FPI	700	700	680	750
Efficiency	Dollars leveraged per county dollar ratio	12	12	23	20

Performance Measure - Description

Outcome information is based on current FES Project data on average refund per household.

Percentage increase is based on IRS figures for number of households who utilized free tax preparation sites in Multnomah County in 2008.

New leverage ratio based on FES Project actual performance data.

FPIG= Federal Poverty Income Guidelines

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County's 6-Year Plan to Improve Outcomes for Children & Families prioritizes increasing low and moderate income families' income as 1 of 2 critical goals for Multnomah County for the planning period 2008-2014.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2011	2011	2012	2012
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$41,522	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$12,717	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$54,239	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$54,239	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

\$54,239 - County General Fund; The program offer is funded through County General Fund and leverages federal and state revenue through the increases in tax returns received by low and moderate income Multnomah County residents. Research shows that low and moderate income families and individuals are more likely to spend their tax refunds so this offer represents a significant investment in economic development.

Significant Program Changes

✔ Significantly Changed

Last year this program was: #10011A, Family Economic Security

In Fiscal Year 2011 this program was budgeted in Multnomah County Commission on Children, Families and Community (CCFC), Program Offer # 10011A - Family Economic Security.