

Lead Agency: County Human Services

Program Contact: Len Lomash

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

Culturally-specific outpatient mental health services provide treatment for five underserved communities in our county (Asian, African-American, Eastern European, Latino and Native American). These communities have encountered difficulty finding mental health treatment that incorporates their culture, tradition and language. These services provide culturally and linguistically relevant care for these populations. Some communities of color are also overrepresented in the criminal justice system. Approximately 330 individuals receive services.

Program Description

The system of care built and maintained by Multnomah County must reflect the demographics of those we serve. To ensure that all members of our community have treatment options that incorporate specific cultural needs, DCHS contracts for mental health services for individuals from five communities currently underserved or insufficiently served. Those communities are: Eastern European, African-American, Asian-American, Latino-American, and Native American.

Data suggests that members of the African-American and Native American communities are more likely than other populations to suffer from severe mental illnesses that require a more intensive level of care. African-Americans are four times more likely to be involuntarily placed in a hospital setting than members of other culturally specific groups. African-Americans are also overrepresented in jail and the criminal justice system.

Culturally-specific services address mental health problems through early access to culturally and linguistically appropriate treatment. Early intervention can mitigate the need for expensive hospital, residential care, or crisis services. Treatment also reduces the risk of inappropriate incarceration or homelessness.

These mental health providers understand community cultural norms, have a relationship of trust with the communities they serve, and these providers offer a wide variety of mental health services in a supportive and culturally appropriate setting.

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	Total Culturally Diverse Individuals Receiving Services ¹	336	400	333	400
Outcome	Culturally Specific Persons Served per 1000 Culturally Diverse in Population ²	2	2	2	2

Performance Measure - Description

¹ This total includes all persons served under this contract and does not include those culturally diverse persons served by Verity or in other programs.

² Service Rate Per 1000 Calculation- Numerator: Total unduplicated culturally diverse individuals served. Denominator: Total county census for similar groups taken from the American Community Survey estimates for 2008.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Board of County Commissioners' initiative

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2011	2011	2012	2012
Contracts	\$1,292,239	\$0	\$1,292,239	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$1,292,239	\$0	\$1,292,239	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,292,239		\$1,292,239	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

\$1,292,239 - County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: