

Lead Agency: County Human Services

Program Contact: Mary Li

Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

The newly designed system of care for children who are commercially sexually exploited will serve 10-15 girls under 18 years of age annually with highly intensive and population-specific services necessary to successfully intervene with this significantly traumatized group of children.

Funds will support initial implementation of culturally-specific outreach, long term assertive engagement, and ongoing system development through an established community-based oversight committee, as well as provide leverage from other sources for other system services such as shelter and housing.

Due to the significant trauma experienced by these children, intervention services are expensive and traditional child welfare service systems are inadequate in meeting this need. The System of Care will require funding from the county, the state, and federal levels. Leveraged funding from the state Department of Human Services (DHS) is expected, as well as through application to population-specific federal grant funding anticipated to be made available in the next 12-18 months.

Program Description

While awareness of the plight of these children is growing, there has been very little research on the best practices with regard to successful intervention. What is known is that the current child welfare system of care is largely ineffective.

Nationally, estimates of children being commercially sexually exploited are growing. Locally, recognition of the problem, the will to take action to solve it, and the need to create population-specific services that currently do not exist is growing. Early response efforts point to a potentially large number of girls ending up in or being moved through Portland as part of national and international criminal activity up and down Interstate 5.

In FY 09-10, the county received a planning grant from the federal government to assess the problem locally and to develop an integrated law enforcement response that includes community-based involvement. Unfortunately, funding to plan for, develop, implement and provide population-specific services after law enforcement intervention is not part of this funding.

In FY 10-11, a multi-jurisdictional working group was convened and charged with the development of a comprehensive system of care for these children. That planning is complete and implementation has begun. Services will be provided in a holistic manner, and coordinated systems collaboration among law enforcement, child welfare, juvenile justice, and community advocates will be established. These services are expected to serve a group of girls, 10-15 years old, who cannot be served in any other system.

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 girls served	0	0	0	100
Outcome	% of girls served who remain enrolled in the program for at least six months	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Due to the trauma of the population, initial success will be defined as having kept girls participating with the program instead of running away, returning to their abuser and commercial sexual exploitation.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

N/A

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2011	2011	2012	2012
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$500,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$500,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

\$500,000 - County General Fund

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: