

Lead Agency: District Attorney
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Program Contact: Adam Brown

Executive Summary

This program provides specific and dedicated resources designed to enable those with mental illness to live safely and productively within the community. The mental health deputy district attorney is the DA coordinator for the Multnomah County Mental Health Court. The mental health deputy district attorney also participates in civil commitment hearings 4 days per week and attends weekly mental health court appearances. The mental health attorney meets weekly with the Behavioral Health Unit of the Portland Police Bureau and supervisors from Multnomah County Mental Health and Addiction Services Division to address potential solutions regarding individuals in the community who suffer from a mental illness and present a public safety concern.

Program Description

The mental health deputy district attorney is the DA coordinator for the Multnomah County Mental Health Court which is a specialized treatment court, designed to reduce criminal activity committed by persons suffering from a qualifying mental health diagnosis. The court is a cooperative effort among multiple agencies, including the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, Multnomah County Circuit Court, Multnomah County Mental Health Department, Metropolitan Public Defender, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, and the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office. Mental Health Court participants are on probation; both supervised (formal probation) and unsupervised (bench probation). As a condition of the probation, defendants are offered an opportunity to participate in the Mental Health Court program. Once accepted into Mental Health Court, the participant is assigned to a Mental Health Court Monitor. The monitor works with the participant on issues such as housing, medication management, health care appointments, and transportation. Participants are expected to stay free of drugs and alcohol, to meet regularly with their assigned monitor, to take all prescribed medication, pay restitution to victims, keep all appointments with service providers, and obey all laws. It takes a minimum of one year to complete Mental Health Court. The mental health attorney staffs the weekly mental health court appearances and works closely with Multnomah County Mental Health and Addiction Services Division, the defense bar, the Judge, and a probation officer to manage the participants.

The mental health deputy district attorney works closely with the Involuntary Commitment Program of Multnomah County Mental Health Division to civilly commit allegedly mentally ill persons who pose a danger to self or others, or are unable to provide for their basic personal needs. The mental health attorney calls witnesses and participates in civil commitment hearings 4 days per week. These commitment hearings take place at the courthouse and at local hospitals.

The mental health attorney meets weekly with the Behavioral Health Unit of the Portland Police Bureau and supervisors from Multnomah County Mental Health and Addiction Services Division. This collaborative effort is designed to address potential solutions regarding individuals in the community who suffer from a mental illness and present an active or ongoing public safety concern.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY11-12)	Current Year Purchased (FY12-13)	Current Year Estimate (FY12-13)	Next Year Offer (FY13-14)
Output	Number of court appearances	0	0	1,780	1,700
Outcome	Number of civil committments	0	0	400	400

Performance Measure - Description

Output - The number of court appearances attended by DDA.

Outcome - The number of civil committments attended by DDA.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County is responsible for providing all commitment services, regardless of state funding level. ORS 426.250. Either the district attorney or other counsel designated by Multnomah County is responsible for representing the State's interests in civil commitment proceedings. ORS 426.100.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2013	2013	2014	2014
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$116,476	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$116,476	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$116,476	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: