

Department of Human Services: Domestic Violence, Refugee and Youth Services

Self-Sufficiency Programs

Primary Outcome Area: Economy and Jobs
 Secondary Outcome Area: Safety
 Program Contact: Belit Burke, 503-947-5389

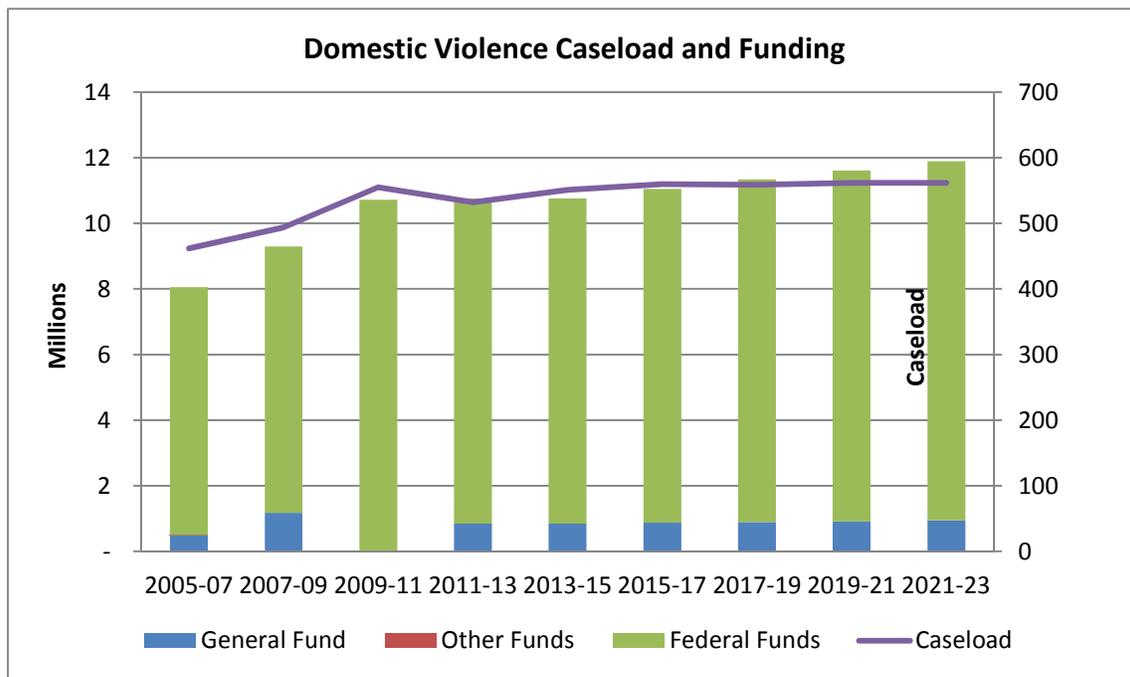
Program Funding Request for All Relevant Programs in this bid form

	Domestic Violence, Refugee and Youth			
	GF	OF	FF	TF
LAB	847,621		24,566,291	25,413,912
ARB	847,621	0	24,566,291	25,413,912
Difference	0	0	0	0
Percent Change	0.0%		0.0%	0.0%

Significant Proposed Program Changes from 2011-13

There are no significant changes proposed in these programs for 2013-15. However, changes in other program areas such as Child Safety and funding for Differential Response staff will improve outcomes in these areas.

Overviews by Program Area



Note: This chart represents the average number of cases receiving a TA-DVS payment per month. In the year ending June 2011, TA-DVS served 7,409 eligible families; however, not all request a TA-DVS payment.

Executive Summary – Domestic Violence

Temporary Assistance for Domestic Violence Survivors (TA-DVS) provides resources to low-income families impacted by domestic violence. These are individuals or a family whose safety is at risk and need help to escape or remain free from domestic violence. Many domestic violence survivors need assistance to create safety and stability in order to be successful in finding and maintaining a job, all keys to becoming self-supporting without

public assistance. A guide on domestic violence created by the Oregon Firearms and Domestic Violence Task Force in 2011 estimated that the costs of domestic and sexual violence injuries in Oregon exceed \$50 million a year. Nearly \$35 million of those costs are for direct medical and mental health care services. Approximately \$9.3 million are from victims' lost productivity from paid work and \$10.7 million are lifetime earnings lost by victims who are killed.

Program Description

TA-DVS provides up to \$1,200, over a three-month period. Payments include rent deposits, initial month's rent, moving costs, and items to help address safety. The program serves families with minor children or individuals who are pregnant, who are low-income and meet eligibility requirements of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Case managers, through DHS field offices, meet with the clients to review their situation and develop a safety plan. Depending on the service needs, payments are made directly to vendors including landlords, truck rental companies, gas stations, or other retailers. DHS also works in partnership with local non-profit domestic violence and sexual assault service providers who assist families with safety planning and emergency shelter.

Program Justification and Link to 10-Year Outcomes

The TA-DVS program has a secondary link to the Safety Outcome area. Futures Without Violence (formerly the Family Violence Prevention Fund) indicates that about 30 percent of women receiving public assistance have experienced domestic violence. Research has shown that individuals impacted by domestic violence have more chronic health issuesⁱ including depression and post-traumatic stress, more difficulty obtaining and maintaining employmentⁱⁱ, and that these impacts can be mitigated by addressing safety.ⁱⁱⁱ This program provides economic support to very low income families who are seeking services to meet basic needs while they are working towards self-sufficiency. Ensuring safety and stability helps the domestic violence survivor be more successful when they engage in job training or job search.

Program Performance

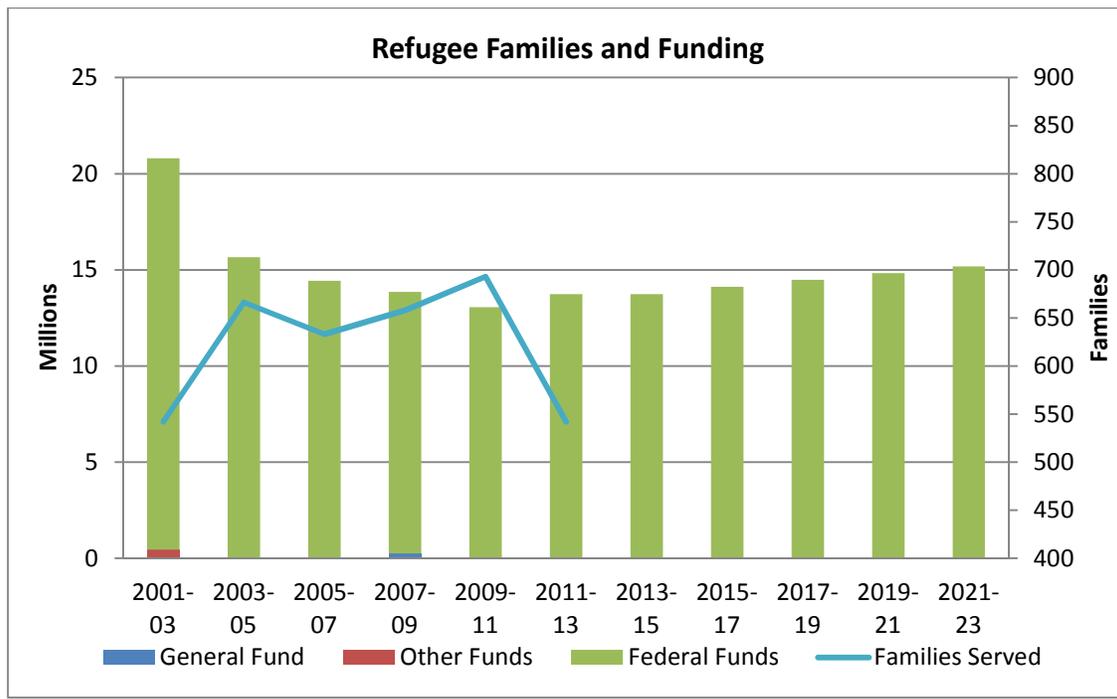
In the year ending June 2007, the program served 5,494 families. In the year ending June 2011, 7,409 families were served. This is a nine percent increase. The average payment was \$730. Not all individuals or families who are determined to be eligible for a TA-DVS payment request one. In the year ending June 2011, 75 percent of eligible individuals or families received a payment.

Enabling Legislation/Program Authorization

Domestic violence emergency assistance also known as TA-DVS is mandated under ORS 411.117 (1)(e). Federal authorization through the TANF block grant includes use of the TANF funds to meet non-recurrent, short-term benefits to deal with specific crisis situations including domestic violence. (See 45CFR 260.31 (b))

Funding Streams

TA-DVS is funded with the Federal TANF block grant. (See 45CFRPart260)



Note: The number of families served in the 2011-13 biennium represents the average mid-way through the biennium. Some caseload decline is expected related to the loss of the Youth Employment Services component to Federal funding cuts. An average monthly caseload for all resettlement agencies is 286 refugee cases.

Executive Summary – Refugee Services

The Refugee Program serves individuals and families who fled persecution in their country of origin and were legally admitted for resettlement by the United States government. The program helps refugees and asylum residents successfully resettle in this country by providing financial, employment-related services and acculturation services. The program guide refugees into self sufficiency through employment as early as possible so they become contributing members of Oregon’s economy.

Program Description

The Refugee Program can serve only those persons in immigration categories approved by the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR): Refugees, Asylees, Cuban/Haitian Entrants and Parolees, Amerasians, Victims of Human Trafficking (international) and certain family members, Iraqi/Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Holders.

Resettlement services are comprehensive. Initial resettlement and case coordination services are delivered by non-profit resettlement agencies located in the Portland tri-county (Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties) area where the majority of refugees seek services. This may include essential tasks such as picking-up refugees at the airport, finding them a place to live and helping to furnish their home with basic necessities. During Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011, the average monthly caseload for all resettlement agencies was 286 refugee cases. Employment-related services are delivered by the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) in Portland. IRCO services may include: Assistance with job search, employment acculturation, English language classes, citizenship, and naturalization help. These services assisted an average of 865 refugees per month. Those refugees who resettle outside the tri-county area are served through a local DHS field office. These refugees represent less than five percent of the total refugee population of Oregon.

Program Justification and Link to 10-Year Outcomes

Refugees receive help to become safe, healthy and independent by learning how to understand and navigate the prevalent culture, become self sufficient through employment as early as possible and become contributing members of Oregon’s economy. These services enhance the ability of arriving refugees to succeed in the U.S., most services are provided for up to eight months after arrival. Employment services can extend to a maximum of 60 months after arrival.

Program Performance

ORR requires states to establish goals related to self sufficiency of refugees. Two of the more significant measures are the percentage of clients who become employed and the percentage who remain employed 90 days after placement. During Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2011, the Refugee Program was able to help gain employment for about 55 percent of the on-going caseload, with the goal being 46 percent. The retention goal was met at 85 percent for those still employed after 90 days.

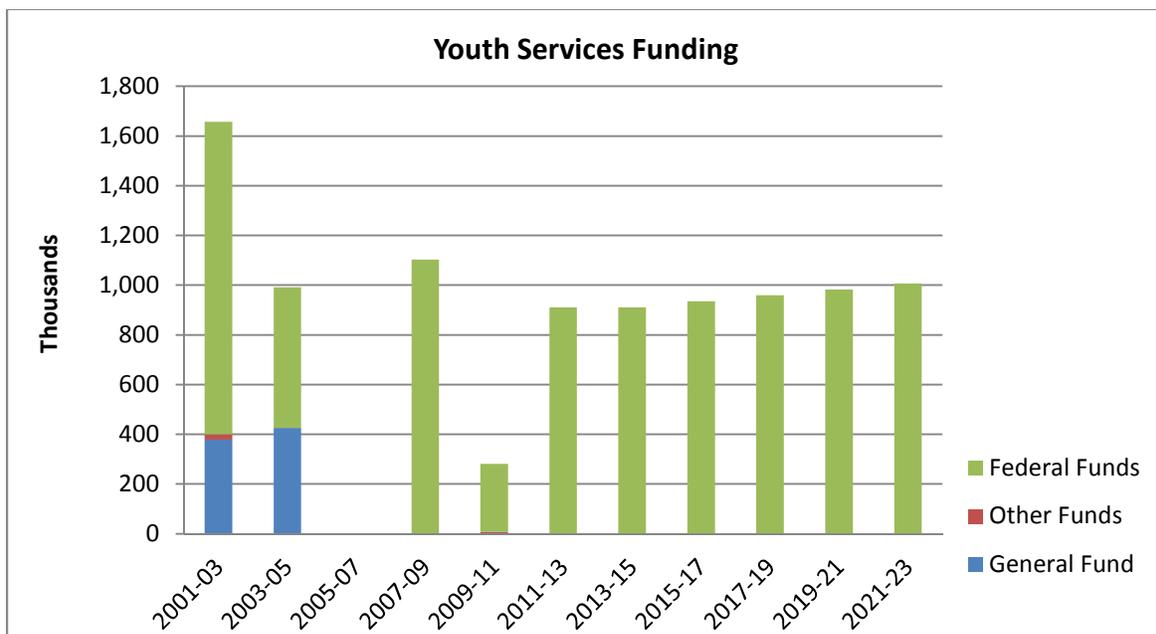
Enabling Legislation/Program Authorization

The Refugee Program is authorized and operates under the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act and the Refugee Act (8 U.S.C. 1522). The Refugee Program operates as a public assistance program under ORS 411.060, 409.010(2)(c), and 409.010(2)(h).

Funding Streams

During the initial resettlement period, the Refugee Program serves two different populations of refugees: Those refugees who are eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and those refugees who are eligible for ORR-funded services

- The TANF eligible refugees receive cash assistance and services paid with funding. No TANF funds are used for state administration of the Refugee Program.
- All other refugees are served with ORR funds, which are Federal. All State administration costs associated with the Refugee Program are charged to ORR.



Note: This program is generally funded by two-year grants and funding streams vary by grant.

Executive Summary - Youth Services

Youth Services include sexual health education programs and multi-site AmeriCorps prevention programs. These services support community prevention efforts to enable Temporary Assistance for Needy (TANF) families to break the generational dependence on public assistance.

Program Description

Youth Services includes age-appropriate, medically accurate sexual health education programs and multi-site AmeriCorps prevention programs. These services support community prevention efforts to enable TANF families in breaking the generational dependence on public assistance. The Youth Services Programs expand on the historical teen pregnancy prevention program to provide education and tools for youth to resist multiple risk taking behaviors. DHS partners with the Oregon Department of Education and the My Future - My Choice Advisory Committee to develop and implement this sexual health education program. During the 2010-2011 school year, this curriculum was implemented in 17 counties and 26 school districts. School districts implement this program at many different times of the year; the 2011-2012 school year data will be available July 1, 2012.

Program Justification and Link to 10-Year Outcomes

An analysis from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy shows that teen childbearing (ages 19 and younger) in Oregon cost taxpayers (Federal, State and local) at least \$91 million in 2004. Of the total 2004 teen childbearing costs in Oregon, 32 percent were Federal costs and 68 percent were State and local costs. Investing in preventing teen pregnancy reduces the risk to teen pregnancy, which can lead to a lifetime of poverty for both the teen parent and the child.

Program Performance

Oregon teen pregnancy rates have consistently stayed below the national average. The teen birth rate in Oregon declined 39 percent between 1991 and 2004. According to national data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the 2009 national rate for births to teens between the ages of 15 and 19 is 38 per 1,000 teen girls. The Oregon rate is 33 per 1,000. Oregon has seen a steady decline in the teen pregnancy rate for teens ages 15 through 17. The rate dropped from 27.6 percent in 2002 to 21.9 percent in 2009, the most recent year data is available.

AmeriCorps members serve in various counties with local partners to educate Oregon communities about strategies to reduce teen pregnancy and provide support for local prevention efforts which reduce multiple risks associated with problem behaviors. This work includes recruitment of volunteers from the local area which increases program sustainability. During the most recently completed service year, 24 AmeriCorps members had been involved in recruiting, training and/or supporting 1,132 local community volunteers. Those volunteers contributed 16,322 hours of service in AmeriCorps service plan activities. This is a Federally required measure for the AmeriCorps program.

Enabling Legislation/Program Authorization

The Oregon Legislature passed HB 2509 in 2009 which requires that all schools provide comprehensive sexual health education. The My Future – My Choice curriculum complies with all requirements of this legislation for sixth and seventh grades. In 2010, the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Health Authority and DHS signed a Memorandum of Agreement to share responsibility for collaborative efforts to increase youth sexual health education and services.

Funding Streams

A Title V Federal grant provides annual funding of \$537,780 to the My Future – My Choice Curriculum for the next five years. Congress has already appropriated funds for the first two years; however, DHS must submit a continuation application each year, and continued funding is contingent on Federal budget approval after the second year.

The AmeriCorps grant funding for the current Federal fiscal cycle 2011-2012 is \$372,400. (Federal FY 2011-2012 is the final year of the current grant). DHS must resubmit an application for Federal FY 2013-2014 with a new program design in order to be eligible for further funding. DHS Youth Services is in the funding application process for a new three-year AmeriCorps grant.

ⁱ Depression, Substance Abuse and Domestic Violence; National Center for Children in Poverty; Sarmila Lawrence; Michelle Chau; Mary Clare Lennon; June 2004

ⁱⁱ Welfare and Domestic Violence Against Women: Lessons from Research – Eleanor Lyon, PHD; August 2002

ⁱⁱⁱ Self-Sufficiency & Safety; Lee McKean, PHD; Center for Impact Research; October 2004