

Juvenile Crime Prevention Funding in Multnomah County: Filling a Critical Need in the Community

It is critical to ensure that the unique behavioral health needs of adolescents who are juvenile justice system involved and are at risk of further penetrating the juvenile or adult corrections systems are addressed and incorporated into the service continuum at the community level. The current Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) funding allocation assists Multnomah County's Department of Community Justice (DCJ) in supporting this endeavor. **DCJ believes that the existing Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) statutory funding formula should be preserved to ensure that:**

- A community-based treatment program that has been successful in reducing juvenile crime and promoting school success in Multnomah County will not be dismantled.
- Youth of color who are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system in Multnomah County do not lose access to important treatment services.
- JCP funds continue to be utilized to leverage additional funds and build a continuum of services in communities.

Multnomah County Department of Community Justice (DCJ) utilizes JCP funds to operate the Assessment and Treatment for Youth and Families (ATYF) program in its Juvenile Services Division. ATYF provides mental health and substance abuse assessments using the Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN), an evidence-based assessment tool and also provides outpatient community-based treatment services for youth and families with strict adherence to the evidence-based model of Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy (MDFT).

Research shows that youth with untreated substance abuse issues are nearly ten times more likely to become chronic re-offenders. ATYF keeps at-risk youth in the community and from reoffending and penetrating deeper into the justice system by linking them to treatment services that change their delinquent thinking and behaviors. ATYF provides the critical service of ongoing in-home and community-based treatment for youth unable to be served by other community providers due to their delinquency and/or non-compliant behaviors. Multnomah County DCJ leverages funding for ATYF through Oregon Health Authority's Division of Medical Assistance Programs, as well as through Multnomah County Health Department's Federally Qualified Health Center.

ATYF FACTS, DEMOGRAPHICS AND OUTPUT MEASURES:

- Serves approximately 140 youth and families annually
- Serves youth who are medium and high risk to reoffend
- Utilizes an evidence-based assessment instrument (Global Appraisal of Individual Needs) as well as an evidence-based community treatment model (Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy)
- 60% receiving assessment services are youth of color*
- 53% receiving treatment services are youth of color*
- 51% of current families involved in the Community Healing Initiative (CHI) have received services from ATYF

** Based on youth served from 7/1/2011 to 6/30/2013*

ATYF OUTCOMES (for July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2013):

- 79% had not been arrested since the beginning of treatment for an offense committed during treatment
- 71% of youth made academic progress and/or improved attendance
- 82% of youth improved problem-solving, self-management, anger management and/or coping skills
- 73% of youth have reduced anti-social cognitions, can identify risky thinking and feelings
- 70% of youth reduced association with criminals and/or enhanced pro-social contacts
- 78% of youth reduced conflict, built positive relationships and improved communication
- 77% of caregivers have enhanced monitoring/supervision
- 76% of youth reduced usage or were not using alcohol or other substances at the end of treatment services
- 64% of youth increased employment readiness
- 62% of youth had enhanced involvement in pro-social activities

For additional information, please contact:

Christina McMahan, Juvenile Services Division Director
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
(503)988-3578 (office) or (503)730-7122 (cell)
christina.mcmahan@multco.us

Nancy Bennett, Co-Director
Multnomah County Office of Government Relations
(503)988-5895 (office) or (503)793-0094 (cell)
nancy.bennett@multco.us



Christina McMahan
Assistant Director/Juvenile Services Division Director
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
1401 NE 68th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97213

Dear Ms McMahan,

As it is the time of year to review service programs, I want to write a letter of support for the Assessment & Treatment for Youth and Families (ATYF) program. The ATYF program plays a critical role in ensuring a continuum of treatment for youth in our community. I have many roles in the community, I am the Multnomah County Reclaiming Futures Treatment Fellow, I am the Community Liaison for NW Behavioral Healthcare Services, and I have created and lead the East Portlanders Inspiring Change Coalition. In all of these roles I am invested in helping make sure that justice involved youth are connected to appropriate treatment services while remaining in the community.

While there are programs in the community that provide various levels of treatment for all youth, the ATYF program provides a unique, intensive in-home treatment model for justice involved youth (Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy) that no other program in the community provides. ATYF works with youth who have proven unsuccessful in other outpatient treatment programs. They serve youth who may otherwise be removed from their home in order to receive the treatment they need.

Having intensive in-home services that can help support our youth and families not only benefits the clients, but also the community at large. I look forward to continued collaboration with ATYF for the appropriate treatment needs of Juvenile Justice involved youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kristine A. Bella'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Kristine' being the most prominent.

Kristine A. Bella
Community Liaison
NW Behavioral Healthcare Services
503.889.6120 cell
kbella@northwestbhs.com



12/23/13

Christina McMahan
Assistant Director/Juvenile Services Division Director
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
1401 NE 68th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97213


Dear Christina,

I am writing this letter of support for Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division's (JSD) Assessment & Treatment for Youth and Families (ATYF) program to make you aware of the critical role that this program plays in ensuring a continuum of treatment for youth in our community. As a Clinical Supervisor for Lifeworks NW and as a member of JSD's Alternative Placement Committee, I know first hand how ATYF's program benefits youth and families. They are an important part of the treatment continuum for justice-involved youth.

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Having intensive in home services that can help support our youth and families not only benefits the clients, but also the community at large. I look forward to continued collaboration with ATYF for the appropriate treatment needs of Juvenile Justice involved youth.

Sincerely,


Steve DeNunzio, BA, M. Div., CADCI
Clinical Supervisor
Lifeworks NW

Mental Health and
Addiction Services
for a Healthy
Community

14600 NW Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97229
Phone: 503.645.3581
Appointments: 503.645.9010
Administration Fax: 503.690.9605
Accounting/Billing/IT Fax: 503.533.0152
Clinical Fax: 503.629.8517
www.lifeworksnw.org

A United Way Partner



WOODLAND PARK
10373 NE Hancock St. + Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220

Christina McMahan
Assistant Director/Juvenile Services Division Director
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice
1401 NE 68th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97213

Dear Christina,

As budget season is among us, I wanted to write a letter of support for the Assessment & Treatment for Youth and Families (ATYF) program. The ATYF program plays a critical role in ensuring a continuum of treatment for youth in our community. As a Clinician at Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare and the Multnomah County Reclaiming Futures Treatment Fellow, I am invested in helping make sure that justice involved youth are connected to appropriate treatment services while remaining in the community.

While there are programs in the community that provide various levels of treatment for all youth, the ATYF program provides a unique, intensive in home treatment model for justice involved youth (Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy) that no other program in the community provides. ATYF works with youth who have proven unsuccessful in other outpatient treatment programs. They serve youth who may otherwise be removed from their home in order to receive the treatment they need. I have, first hand, had a wonderful experience with a client needing their services.

Having intensive in home services that can help support our youth and families not only benefits the clients, but also the community at large. I look forward to continued collaboration with ATYF for the appropriate treatment needs of Juvenile Justice involved youth.

Sincerely,

Pat Garner QMHP, CADCI
Integrated Youth and Family Counselor
Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare