



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(revised 08/02/10)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 3/3/11
Agenda Item #: R-6
Est. Start Time: 10:25 am
Date Submitted: 2/17/11

Agenda Title: Informational Board Briefing on the Family & Neighborhood Gang Violence Prevention Project

Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: March 3, 2011 **Amount of Time Needed:** 45 Minutes
DCHS Community Services Division & DCJ Juvenile Services Division

Department: DCHS & DCJ **Division:** Services Division

Contact(s): Thach Nguyen

Phone: 988-5635 **Ext.** x85635 **I/O Address:** 311/1

Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Scott Taylor, DCJ Director, David Koch, Juvenile Services Division Director, Mary Li, DCHS Sr. Manager . Joanne Fuller, Interim COO, & Kathy Tinkle, Interim DCHS Dir.

General Information

- 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?**
Informational Board briefing on the Family & Neighborhood Gang Violence Prevention Project.
- 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.**

DCJ and DCHS wish to align services to more effectively prevent gang violence in the County. We hope to get better outcomes by targeting \$1.6 million in gang prevention services on the families of gang-affected/gang-involved clients on DCJ supervision. The project also leverages DCJ's Youth Development Services to provide \$1.2 million in programming for high-risk, gang-involved youth on DCJ supervision.

DCHS gang violence prevention services have been provided to families identified by schools, but many families with members involved with gangs and violence were being missed. DCJ's Culturally Specific Intervention Services have focused on case management for youth on supervision, but services for siblings and parents have not been a focus of the program. Reprogramming funding into the Family & Neighborhood Gang Violence Prevention Project focuses holistic, culturally specific prevention/intervention services to 250 African-American and Latino young people and their families currently involved with the juvenile justice system as a result of gang related delinquent behavior and highly at risk to continue association with a cycle of gang involvement and gang violence. A standard assessment will determine services needed in each family.

While there are not currently Asian and Native American young people on supervision, some amount of prevention funding will continue to be maintained for the Asian and Native American populations.

The project changes the target populations, program model approach, types of services offered and, potentially, providers of current services. This coincides with the expiration of current gang prevention and culturally specific intervention contracts and the need for new procurement.

DCJ's new strategic plan places a high priority on behavior change, and to that end DCJ is implementing the Functional Family Probation supervision model. The Family & Neighborhood Gang Violence Prevention Project complements that model. It allows DCJ to continue to focus behavior change interventions on the highest risk clients, while also ensuring that the families of these clients receive services in their homes and in their communities. These services are designed to stop the gang violence cycle by addressing its root causes:

- Lack of opportunities for legitimate income;
- Lack of education;
- Family distress;
- Substance abuse;
- Dangerous neighborhood coping strategies;
- Antisocial thinking, behavior and peer associations.

The project also aligns well with the local Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan, which calls for an action plan to get better outcomes for African American and Latino youth, who are starkly overrepresented in the justice system in the County.

FY 12 Program Offers Affected: DCHS Youth Gang Prevention program offers 25123A & 25123B, and Juvenile Culturally Specific Intervention Services program offer 50030A.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

This action assumes maintaining the same funding levels.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

Services will be directed to African –American and Latino children and families who have a member involved with gangs and under DCJ supervision. This assures a family approach to intervention. It also directs services away from lower-risk children who receive services under the current design.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

Community forums are being conducted in the African American and Latino communities to gather input on services and approaches desired by the community. Information gathered will inform program design.

Required Signature

**Elected Official or
Department/
Agency Director:**



Date: 2/17/11