

Department:	Health Department	Program Contact:	Andrea Hamberg
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating Program	Program Offer Stage:	As Adopted
Related Programs:	40199T		
Program Characteristics:	Backfill State/Federal/Grant		

Executive Summary

Environmental Health Community Programs (EHCP) impact a wide range of well-documented, upstream, and emerging environmental health issues, with the goal to eliminate environmental hazards that contribute to racial and ethnic health disparities. Program areas include community environments, toxics reduction, woodsmoke curtailment, and climate change, with an explicit focus on environmental justice and vulnerable populations, and addressing health inequities in lead poisoning, respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease, and traffic crash injury. Activities include monitoring and assessing environments, policies, and health; providing technical assistance and data expertise; reporting; communications; and direct services.

Program Summary

EHCP is a continuum of services that ensure all county residents have access to optimal living conditions in their homes and neighborhoods. With an environmental justice framework, the programs focus first on the highest risk communities facing the least access to political and social power such as youth, elders, low-income communities, and communities of color. These communities are engaged so that their concerns, expertise, and proposed solutions can be integrated into the activities of the following program areas. Community Environments: works closely with the REACH program to ensure safe and healthy neighborhoods through participation in local planning efforts, data analysis, and technical assistance to help community understand environmental risks. Toxics Reduction: identifies exposure risks to contaminated land, air, water, consumer goods, and industrial production, and makes technical information accessible to the public as part of empowering communities to advocate on their own behalf. Woodsmoke: implements County Ordinance 1253, curtailing wood burning on winter days with high air pollution. Implementation includes issuing daily air quality forecasts; fielding complaints, investigations and enforcement; conducting outreach campaigns; monitoring health burdens from air pollution; and working with governmental and community stakeholders to reduce impacts among the populations most affected. Climate Change: works to understand upstream, emerging health issues related to climate change and protect the public's health from their impacts.

With communities of color experiencing disproportionate burdens of the above environmental health issues, EHCP monitors racial disparities in exposures as well as outcomes as part of its environmental justice approach. Exposure measure examples include proximity to sources of air pollution, presence of lead, toxic fish consumption, urban heat, and access to physical activity. Outcome measures are drawn from data on deaths and illnesses linked to environmental hazards, such as cancer, asthma, heart disease, diabetes, dementia, lead poisoning, traffic crash injuries, heat illness, and vector-borne disease. These data then guide programming to focus on communities experiencing disparities through multilingual services, culturally specific education and communications, partnerships with community-based organizations and culturally specific County programs, and community engagement through coalitions, focus groups, and interagency work groups.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer
Output	Number of community members receiving information on environmental threats	1,425,829	200,000	831,753	800,000
Outcome	Number of children with reduced EBLL as a result of environmental investigations	60	40	76	60
Outcome	Number of policies adopted that include health- and health justice-based recommendations	16	10	9	10
Outcome	Proportion of people aware of and complying with the woodsmoke curtailment ordinance	N/A	50%	50%	50%

Performance Measures Descriptions

1) Includes all program areas, counting community members receiving mailings, attending events, direct contact with staff, visiting websites/social media, and exposure to media campaigns. The high count in FY21 is due to wildfire response and heat dome. FY22 Estimate reflects better than expected reach using one-time-only advertising and outreach funding. 3) Policy recommendations are developed with an environmental justice lens. 4) To be measured by a survey, new in FY22 (nc FY1 data). Compliance defined as respondents reporting burning wood only on "green days" or not at all.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Legal mandates are City of Portland codes 8.20.210, 8.20.200, 29.30.110, 29.30.060, and Multnomah County Housing Code 21.800 (shared with Vector Control); Multnomah County Code Chapter 21.450 Air Quality Regulation of wood burning devices and recreational burning. Contract with State of Oregon, Port of Portland and Portland Bureau of Environmental Services to provide outreach and education related to consuming fish from Portland Harbor Superfund site. Contract with Portland Water Bureau to provide information, education and access to water testing for lead. Some activities under this program offer are subject to contractual obligations under Inter-Governmental Agreement #0607105.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023
Personnel	\$254,622	\$372,286	\$517,922	\$1,340,459
Contractual Services	\$3,138	\$81,979	\$5,124	\$85,055
Materials & Supplies	\$3,599	\$17,654	\$13,936	\$70,633
Internal Services	\$26,243	\$72,194	\$520	\$255,016
Total GF/non-GF	\$287,602	\$544,113	\$537,502	\$1,751,163
Program Total:	\$831,715		\$2,288,665	
Program FTE	1.69	2.74	3.75	9.75

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$225,000	\$0	\$1,518,342
Service Charges	\$0	\$319,113	\$0	\$232,821
Total Revenue	\$0	\$544,113	\$0	\$1,751,163

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$180,158 in indirect revenues.

- \$ 218,000 - PWB City Lead Line
- \$ 232,821 - Fish Advisory Outreach funding
- \$ 1,300,342 - Modernization Local

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 40037 Environmental Health Community Programs

In FY22, the CDC reduced the definition of elevated blood lead level from 5ug/dL to 3.5, increasing investigations caseload, and the program added a new woodsmoke Program Specialist. In FY 23, OHA Public Health Modernization increased by \$1,300,342. FY23 funds will support the Board's extension of the woodsmoke season from 5 months to 12 and expand the program by 9.07 FTE. New positions will focus on environmental/climate justice and encampments, coordinating with the Office of Sustainability Climate Justice Initiative, REACH, Vector, and JOHS. CDC COVID-19 Health Disparities funds (40199T) will support capacity within this program offer. COVID-19-Related: In FY21/FY22, lead screening clinics/inspections were paused; community fish safety contracts were delayed; and staff were partially deployed to COVID-19 response, decreasing communications.