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**Report to the Oregon Legislature:  
Gang Transition Services for  
Multnomah County Gang-Impacted Youth**

**July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022**

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**Prepared by the Juvenile Services Division of the  
Multnomah County Department of Community Justice**

**January 2023**

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## **Why Are GTS Funds Needed?**

Gang Transition Services (GTS) funds provide critical community-based, family-focused, culturally-responsive services to high-risk gang-impacted youth in our community. These services include probation supervision (RISE Unit), Community Monitoring Program (CMP), Community Healing Initiative (CHI) for youth on probation, and short-term shelter placements. Without these services, our community would be less safe and more youth of color would be committed to youth correctional facilities and residential facilities outside of Multnomah County.

GTS funded programs continue to have a positive impact on reducing recidivism among gang-impacted youth involved with the Community Healing Initiative (CHI). GTS funds contribute to lower recidivism and fewer crime victims, ensure youth attend their court hearings, connect youth and families to pro-social and culturally responsive services, and keep youth in the community and out of more expensive placements. Additionally, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, GTS funds supported Multnomah County's efforts to reduce reliance on detention and bolstered support and programming for families of justice-involved youth.

Since the implementation of Senate Bill 1008 on January 2, 2020 - which ended the automatic transfer of youth to adult criminal court - the juvenile system has assumed responsibility for processing and providing services to young people adjudicated on very serious person-to-person felonies. Between January 1, 2021 and October 1, 2022 there were 140 youth referred to Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division that previously would have been automatically transferred to the adult system. Of those 140 youth, 40 had their cases dismissed. The remaining 100 youth had petitions filed in the juvenile court, with only two of those youth ending up waived to the adult system. With the juvenile system now responsible for supervision of youth adjudicated for serious felony cases, the services funded by GTS are needed more than ever. GTS funding assists Multnomah County in continuing to provide proven resources that positively impact youth outcomes.

## What Services Are Funded?

### COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES

RISE/GTS	CHI	Shelter	Community Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Probation Supervision to Gang-impacted Youth</li> <li>• Recidivism Reduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culturally Specific Services</li> <li>• Community Based Support</li> <li>• Outreach to Parents and Siblings</li> <li>• Mentoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-Term Shelter &amp; Treatment Foster Care Placements</li> <li>• Culturally Responsive Settings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic Monitoring</li> <li>• Increased Accountability</li> <li>• Alternative to Detention</li> </ul>

**Resource Intervention Services to Empower (RISE) Unit:** RISE provides probation supervision to high-risk, gang-impacted, justice-involved youth using strategies that are tailored to each youth's issues, strengths, needs, culture, and environmental influences. RISE focuses on medium and high-risk youth on supervision and their families by utilizing Functional Family Probation Services (FFPS), an evidence-based case management model. In partnership with the Community Healing Initiative (CHI) Team, Juvenile Court Counselors (JCCs) develop probation case plans that establish enforceable expectations and address victim restitution. Along with holding gang-impacted youth accountable through specialized supervision and sanctions, Juvenile Court Counselors coordinate treatment and interventions designed to address delinquent behavior. Skill building, mentoring, intensive family-based counseling, culturally-appropriate services, community support systems, educational advocacy and the incorporation of positive, age-appropriate activities are all used to counter gang involvement. RISE also partners with law enforcement, adult Probation/Parole Officers (PPOs) and the community to gather intelligence that helps dismantle gang activity.

**COMMUNITY HEALING INITIATIVE (CHI):** CHI is a family- and community-centered collaboration designed to stop youth gang and gun violence in Multnomah County by addressing its root causes. This collaborative paradigm between Multnomah County and culturally-specific community-based providers reflects joint system responsibility that entails shared financial resources and investments, shared system outcomes and shared risk. CHI provides culturally-specific services to African American, Latinx youth, African immigrant and refugee youth and families. CHI applies supervision/suppression, intervention,

and prevention strategies to youth and families who have recent involvement with high-risk activities and behaviors relevant to violence/gun violence. Each family receives a comprehensive assessment and individualized family service plan. Services are tailored to meet a family's individual needs and integrated in a manner that reduces and prevents gang violence. A network of public safety and social service agencies, and community-based organizations known as the CHI Team, build service capacity, promote integrated case management, increase connection to ethnic communities in the metropolitan area, and augment community safety. The CHI Team focuses on sustainability through fostering family and community ownership and empowerment. Services are evidence-based, culturally-specific, and family-oriented. The family service plans address criminogenic needs that most closely link with recidivism and youth violence. CHI also includes a mentoring program which pairs CHI youth with a professional adult mentor with similar life experiences, who represents a culturally relevant and positive role model in the young person's life. The goals of CHI are to prevent medium and high-risk youth of color from committing new crimes and penetrating further into the justice system. Culturally competent, strength-based programs that are delivered in homes and the community are shown to be most effective with marginalized youth. All the work conducted through CHI helps prevent unnecessary and expensive detainment in correctional facilities.

**SHELTER CARE:** Multnomah County serves as a model site, and has long been regarded as a national leader in the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). Shelter care is one of the alternatives to detention that the Juvenile Services Division (JSD) utilizes. Shelter care services offer at-risk youth who would otherwise be placed in costly detention beds an opportunity to remain safely in the community under a high level of structure and supervision by professional shelter care providers. JSD contracts with Boys and Girls Aid and Maple Star Oregon to provide short-term shelter and treatment foster care to pre- and post-adjudicated youth. Services are focused on providing a safe, secure and supportive environment that assists with behavioral stabilization, strengthening individual and family relationships, using evidence-based practices (EBP) and strength-based approaches in dealing with the criminogenic needs of the youth, and facilitating the youth's reintegration back to the family and/or community. The majority of justice-involved youth placed in these shelter programs are Latinx and African American. By serving youth of color in culturally appropriate placements (short-term shelter care or treatment foster care), research has shown the disproportionate confinement of youth of color drops significantly and keeps youth connected to their communities without compromising public safety.

**COMMUNITY MONITORING PROGRAM (CMP):** Community monitoring is another alternative to detention utilized by the Juvenile Services Division (JSD). The Community Monitoring Program (CMP) permits some at-risk youth who would otherwise be housed in detention to remain in the community under the supervision of Volunteers of America's (VOA) Youth Monitors. CMP serves as a central component of Multnomah County's juvenile detention reform work. The program gives at-risk youth greater opportunity to demonstrate accountability and responsibility than if they would have been in detention. Additionally, youth can remain involved in the community, their schools, and access community-based services. The Juvenile Court establishes the conditions under which each youth will

remain in the community. Under continuous supervision through the use of electronic monitoring, home visits and phone calls, the youth can continue with school and/or work and maintain community ties, support systems, or alternative care. VOA's Youth Monitors are specially trained to detect violations of conditions of release or threats to public safety. Youth Monitors conduct random field visits, evaluate any changes to the youth's living situation within the community and file reports with the Juvenile Court. To ensure community safety, any activity that places the public at risk may result in removal from the program and placement in detention under the authority of the Juvenile Services Division or the Juvenile Court.

### **How Does Multnomah County Maximize the Impact of GTS Funds?**

Multnomah County maximizes GTS funding by leveraging local and grant resources to support gang prevention and intervention work in several ways. In order to combat the serious social and public safety problems associated with gangs and gang involvement by youth in our community, Multnomah County invests a significant amount of county general funds to combine with the GTS funding received, which allows the County to provide the important programs and services described in this report.

GTS funding has been maximized by the investment of county general funds to expand a model developed in Multnomah County known as the Community Healing Initiative (CHI). As previously stated, the CHI program provides culturally-specific, wraparound services to gang-impacted probation youth and their families. The providers are community-based and have deep ties and connections with youth, families and the services needed (leadership development, parenting classes, mental health, drug and alcohol treatment, etc.) to reduce and reverse the cycle of violence. In FY2022, the County utilized general funds to expand the CHI program to serve another community of color, African immigrant and refugee justice-involved youth and their families.

Multnomah County utilizes funding from the Oregon Department of Education Youth Development Division to operate an additional program that maximizes GTS funding targeting all first-time youth offenders with a qualifying low-level offense. Eligible youth are referred to Community Healing Initiative - Early Intervention (CHI-EI), a program operated by community-based, culturally-specific non profit organizations that provide support, services and referrals. Prior to July 2015, these first-time, low-level offenders received warning letters from the Multnomah County Juvenile Services Division (JSD). This early intervention and diversion program engages youth and their families with culturally-responsive care coordination and case management, school connection and reconnection assistance, pro-social activities and referrals to needed services (counseling, health, emergency assistance, etc.). This initiative was designed by a multi-disciplinary, cross-sector team to help reduce disparities in the number of referrals for youth of color to the Juvenile Services Division, and reduce the likelihood that these youth return and/or penetrate more deeply into the juvenile justice system.

## 2022 Output and Outcome Measures

All Active Cases in FY2022

Table 1: Demographics of Youth\* Receiving GTS Funded Services

Risk Level	Gender	Race/Ethnicity
High - 53%	Male - 91%	Caucasian - 18%
Medium - 28%	Female - 9%	Hispanic - 19%
Low - 13%		African-American - 52%
Unknown - 6%		Other - 11%

\*Youth can receive multiple GTS funded services within a reporting period. See appendix for a description of data sources. Youth JCP scores can change during the course of supervision. Table 1 represents the youth's score at the time the data was collected, not the youth's initial JCP risk score.

Table 2: JCP Risk Level of Youth\* Receiving Funded Services

Program/Service	Unclassified/ Unavailable		Low		Medium		High		All	
RISE/GTS	4	2%	34	19%	50	28%	88	50%	176	100%
CHI**	12	14%	0	0%	24	28%	50	58%	86	100%
Shelter	4	8%	3	6%	11	22%	33	64%	51	100%
CMP	7	6%	17	15%	33	30%	55	49%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Youth can receive multiple GTS funded services within a reporting period. See appendix for a description of data sources.

\*\*110 CHI clients were served in FY22. 86 youth had JJIS numbers and therefore, only those 86 youth are included in the data tables.

Table 3: Gender Distribution of Youth\* Receiving Funded Services

Program/Service	Male		Female		Non-Binary		All Participants	
RISE/GTS	176	100%	0	0%	0	0%	176	100%
CHI	75	87%	11	13%	0	0%	86	100%
Shelter	42	82%	9	18%	0	0%	51	100%
CMP	95	85%	17	15%	0	0%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Youth can receive multiple GTS funded services within a reporting period. See appendix for description of data sources.

\*\*110 CHI clients were served in FY22. 86 youth had JJIS numbers and therefore, only those 86 youth are included in the data tables.

Table 4: Race/Ethnicity Distribution of Youth\* Receiving Funded Services

Program /Service	African-American		Hispanic		Caucasian		Other/Unknown		All Participants	
RISE/GTS	69	39%	30	17%	54	31%	23	13%	176	100%
CHI	59	69%	24	28%	1	1%	2	2%	86	100%
Shelter	22	43%	9	18%	8	16%	12	24%	51	100%
CMP	69	62%	18	16%	15	13%	10	9%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Youth can receive multiple GTS funded services within a reporting period. See appendix for description of data sources.

\*\*110 CHI clients were served in FY22. 86 youth had JJIS numbers and therefore, only those 86 youth are included in the data tables.



Table 5: Program Completion

Program/ Service	Closed Successfully*		Closed Unsuccessfully		Active		All Participants	
RISE/GTS	62	35%	4	2%	110	63%	176	100%
Shelter	30	59%	18	35%	3	6%	51	100%
CMP	53	47%	39	35%	20	18%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Successful completion events differ by program: RISE/GTS includes completion of community supervision without escalation to an OYA commitment or a charge filed in adult criminal court; Shelter successful completions are exits to live at home or to live in an appropriate community placement, while runaways or escalations to OYA are unsuccessful; Community Monitoring Program includes successful completion of service without an abscond or new crime.

\*\*No completion/exit status data for CHI due to the fact that CHI youth may continue in CHI services past probation completion.

Table 6: Youth who received a new criminal referral while enrolled in Programs

Program/ Service	No Recidivism		Recidivism*		All Participants	
RISE/GTS	152	86%	24	14%	176	100%
CHI**	69	80%	17	20%	86	100%
Shelter	35	69%	16	31%	51	100%
CMP	93	83%	19	17%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Recidivism is defined as a new felony or misdemeanor law violation referral, regardless of whether or not the referral was adjudicated

\*\*110 CHI clients were served in FY22. 86 youth had JJIS numbers and therefore, only those 86 youth are included in the data tables.

Table 7: Youth Committed to OYA while receiving funded services

Program/ Service	OYA Youth Facility Commitment	Correctional Commitment	OYA Residential Commitment		No Commitments		All Participants	
RISE/GTS	9	5%	5	3%	162	92%	176	100%
CHI*	4	5%	4	5%	78	90%	86	100%
Shelter	0	0%	0	0%	51	100%	51	100%
CMP	0	0%	2	2%	110	98%	112	100%
<b>All</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100%</b>

*\*\*110 CHI clients were served in FY22. 86 youth had JJIS numbers and therefore, only those 86 youth are included in the data tables.*

## **A Closer Look: Youth Profiles CHI Probation**

*The following stories are written by care managers working with probation youth in the CHI program. Names have been changed to protect individuals' identities.*

### **Story # 1**

Shawn and his family have had a very difficult past few years. While most of us were adjusting to the difficulties of going into quarantine during a global pandemic, Shawn and his family were also coping with the unexpected loss of his father. The following year Shawn would go on to lose multiple relatives, as well as countless peers and acquaintances to gun violence. Like a lot of CHI youth Shawn has been through a lot for someone his age, including being involved in the criminal justice system since age 12. Being young and naïve made Shawn's relationship with his team (JCC, CHI and school staff) turbulent. Though recently Shawn has begun to show improvement in school engagement, compliance with probation and at home. Shawn has formed a strong connection to his CHI Professional mentor Arthur Moore, which I believe has been instrumental in Shawn's recent change in behavior. Shawn's mother Stephanie has also started to open up to her CHI team, keeping us up to date on Shawn's progress and requesting support when needed. Shawn has successfully completed community monitoring, participated in a prosocial basketball camp over the summer, and is currently passing all his classes in school. Shawn and his family seem happy about the positive changes he is making as he begins to tap into his true potential.

### **Story # 2**

Alex is a young man who has been with Latino Network CHI since the Fall of 2021. He is someone who has had his struggles like anyone would in his situation. During his time with CHI, he has shown a lot of growth and maturation. Alex being the person he is, has always wanted to help support his family and single mother. An area where he has struggled a lot and was able to improve on is self-advocacy and the pressure of peers around his neighborhood.

Alex was not able to effectively communicate with his school what areas he needed extra support in. These two skills go hand and hand because if you are not able to communicate effectively, you're going to struggle to advocate for yourself. With the increase in community violence throughout the city, Alex's neighborhood was not exempt to it. In fact, it is prevalent in his neighborhood. Due to this he has experienced this indirectly as he has friends who have passed away to gun violence.

Throughout his time with CHI Alex has remained an active participant in our programming. He has participated in our spring and summer programming that we host for all our CHI participants. Not only that, he has recently completed the OYCP program which he decided to do on his own. He was mature enough to understand what benefits it would have in his future.

Alex's mom Maria has always been his biggest advocate and maintained communication with the case manager. Together we've been able to build good rapport and trust with Alex and his family. We've been able to assist this family in different areas of need such as food security, rent assistance, energy assistance, transportation, clothing.

Alex shows a tremendous amount of potential and is on his way to fulfilling it. He is eager to enter the workforce and help support his family. Alex is in the process of overcoming his obstacles and there's no doubt in my mind that he will one day achieve his goals.

## **Appendix**

*The following is a brief description of GTS-funded programs and the data sources used for Tables 2, 3, 4 and 5 contained in this GTS Annual Report.*

### **RISE**

RISE focuses on providing supervision and case-management to gang-impacted/gang-affected, high-risk youth. Youth receive an assessment using the Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) risk assessment tool. For each youth, an assigned Juvenile Court Counselor develops an individualized case plan that reflects the youth's criminogenic risks and needs. Juvenile Court Counselors work closely with law enforcement to prevent crime and violence by collaborating on prevention efforts. Data is comprised of youth on GTS-funded RISE caseloads. These data are pulled from our Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS).

### **CHI**

The target population for the CHI program includes African American and Latinx youth who are on probation through Multnomah County Juvenile Court. CHI provides educational and vocational services, counseling, mental health and addiction treatment, mentoring and other services in a culturally appropriate setting designed to strengthen a youth's pro-social connections to the community and maximize his or her community supports.

A database of youth referred to CHI services is maintained by ServicePoint. Youth served in this reporting period (including new cases, closed cases, and carry-over cases from previous years) were matched with youth's JJIS data to gather information such as risk level and new criminal offense for this report.

### **Shelter & CMP - Detention Alternatives**

As one of several detention alternatives, GTS-funded shelter care serves youth at risk of gang involvement to prevent them from being placed in a more expensive youth correctional facility while ensuring public protection. A shelter database maintained by DCJ Research and Planning was used mainly for gathering the data for this report. Data on JCP risk level, re-offense, and OYA commitment were gathered separately from JJIS for the shelter youth to generate statistics needed for the annual report.

The Community Monitoring Program (CMP) provides supervision and support to assure public safety and the youth's presence for court hearings while reserving the use of costly detention bed spaces for higher risk youth. This program also serves as an immediate sanction for youth who have gone to court and need additional support and supervision to assure compliance with probation. A combination of CMP database and JJIS reports provided by County IT in SQL server was used as data sources for this report.