![Multnomah County logo]

Gang Transition Services for
Multnomah County Gang-Impacted Youth

Senate Bill 5541 Testimony Highlights

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

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The Multnomah County 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 the 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.

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.

What is the breakdown of *Multnomah County Gang Prevention Services*?

There is $1,055,500 allocated to the 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.

$350,091 allocated toward 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 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.

$477,002 for the 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.

CHI	Shelter	Community Monitoring
• Culturally Specific Services • Community Based Support • Outreach to Parents and Siblings • Mentoring	• Short-Term Shelter & Treatment Foster Care Placements • Culturally Responsive Settings	• Electronic Monitoring • Increased Accountability • Alternative to Detention
$1,055,500	**$350,091**	**$477,002**