

PROPOSED NEW PROGRAM: THURSTON COUNTY RESOURCE HUB

Proposal continues to be refined by joint planning team including Pretrial Services, Public Defense, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and Commissioners Office. May require additional legal review re: TST eligibility and refinement of exact dollar amount requested.

Program Description: *The Thurston County Resource Hub will serve as a one-stop shop for justice impacted individuals to connect to critical services and resources. Space has been identified on the County courthouse campus; TST funding is requested for program management and coordination. On-site services will be offered by community-based organizations and public partners— discussions are underway with behavioral health services, housing, public benefit enrollment, employment, peer navigation and other partners.*

Key Issues:

Community Need- How does this proposal address an unmet need in the community? Please cite the 2021 TST opportunity analysis or other specific data on gaps.

- As noted in the TST opportunity analysis, the Resource Hub was identified by justice leaders as a key need in recent Sequential Intercept model and Innovative Justice discussions.
- Clients often leave Court hearings or other meetings with a list of services to access and tasks to complete- accessing these resources through phone calls or traveling around the County can be challenging, especially for individuals with behavioral health needs. Co-locating these services on the County campus will increase the likelihood that clients will be successful in accessing needed services.

Evidence Base- What is the research or evidence base supporting this proposal? What defines success in this model?

- Integrated service delivery and one-stop shops for social services have been shown to reduce barriers to service access.
 - <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health/strategies/social-service-integration>
- Olympia Community Court offers a similar model for a limited number of hours per week; this model and others have demonstrated successful outcomes for communities and has inspired the concept of the Thurston County Resource Hub.
- Key measures of success will include number of individuals accessing the Hub, as well as whether individuals enroll in ongoing services- especially behavioral health. Ideally, this service access will lead to timely case resolution and reduced recidivism.

COVID-19- How will COVID impact demand for this new program? In what ways has COVID influenced the program design?

- COVID-19 has left many individuals disconnected from in-person services. The Resource Hub will provide an efficient mechanism through which clients can connect or reconnect to services. In addition, COVID has resulted in significant backlogs in the Court system; so there are large numbers of justice impacted individuals in need of assistance.

Other Goals/ Context (optional)

- Resource Hub would serve individuals enrolled in other TST-funded programs, as well as other justice impacted individuals in need of services.
- Planning process seeks to leverage resources from other partners- for example, workforce development grant funding may be available, and partners such as state agencies are likely to be able to offer co-located services at no cost to the County.

2022-2023 Budget Preview:

- Approximately \$175,000 per year to cover 1.0 FTE program manager, and support for community-based organizations providing services and resources at the Hub.