

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Department: Mental Health**

**HB Section(s): 10.220**

**Program Name: Forensic Support Services**

**Program is found in the following core budget(s): Forensic Support Services**

**1a. What strategic priority does this program address?**

Foster ongoing recovery and self-sufficiency through treatment, habilitation, and integration of community services for Missourians with mental illness and developmental disabilities in state-operated programs.

**1b. What does this program do?**

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) is statutorily mandated to monitor forensic clients acquitted as not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect who are granted a conditional release to the community by the court and those committed as sexually violent predators. Monitoring is a public safety function that is provided by Forensic Case Monitors under the direction of the Director of Forensic Services and the facility Forensic Review Committee. There are twelve Forensic Case Monitors located across the state who oversee 420 forensic clients on court-ordered conditional release statewide.

Forensic Case Monitors review the case of each forensic client on conditional release at least monthly, and more often if necessary, to determine compliance with court-ordered conditions of release and to ensure that forensic clients are receiving care and treatment consistent with their needs and the goal of public safety. If the Forensic Case Monitor determines the client has violated court-ordered conditions of release or needs inpatient psychiatric treatment, the client may be voluntarily admitted or the Director of Forensic Services may issue an order returning the client to inpatient treatment and initiate proceedings to revoke the conditional release. The Forensic Case Monitors must also provide testimony at court proceedings and revocation hearings and must educate community providers about forensic and public safety issues.

DMH, upon order of the Circuit Court, provides pretrial evaluations on issues of competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility. DMH requires that evaluations be completed by Certified Forensic Examiners who must hold doctorate degrees in medicine, osteopathy or psychology and who must complete required supervision and training. This certification process is the responsibility of the Director of Forensic Services.

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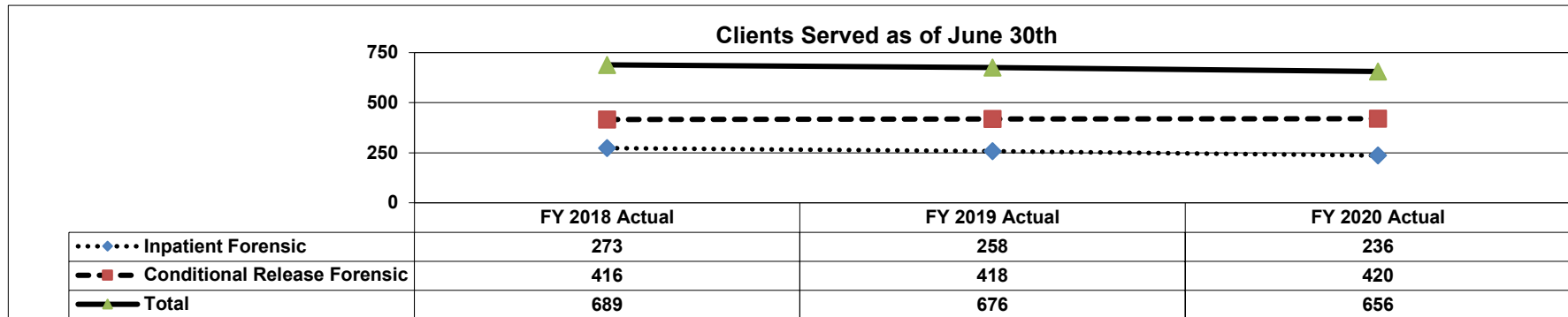
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2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



**Note:** Forensic clients represented in this graph are only those clients who were committed to the Department as Not Guilty by Reason of Mental Disease or Defect (NGRI).

*Significance:* The Division is successfully monitoring NGRI clients in the community versus a hospital setting.

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

N/A

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**2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.**

| <b>Number of NGRI clients on conditional release</b> |     |
|--|-----|
| June 30, 2017  | 426 |
| June 30, 2018  | 416 |
| June 30, 2019  | 418 |
| June 30, 2020  | 420 |

| <b>NGRI clients remaining on conditional release on the following calendar year</b> |                |          |
|---|----------------|----------|
|   | <b>Clients</b> | <b>%</b> |
| June 30, 2016   | 414            | 91.2%    |
| June 30, 2017   | 402            | 89.5%    |
| June 30, 2018   | 389            | 91.3%    |
| June 30, 2019   | 387            | 92.1%    |

**Data for June 30, 2020 is not yet available.**

*Significance: This demonstrates the success of the conditional release system within DMH. Clients are effectively transitioning from an inpatient setting to the community due to several factors: 1) Support from, and continuing treatment by, the community mental health centers and 2) Supervision, and ongoing oversight by, the Forensic Case Monitors and Forensic Review Committees.*

*Target: To stay at or above 90%*

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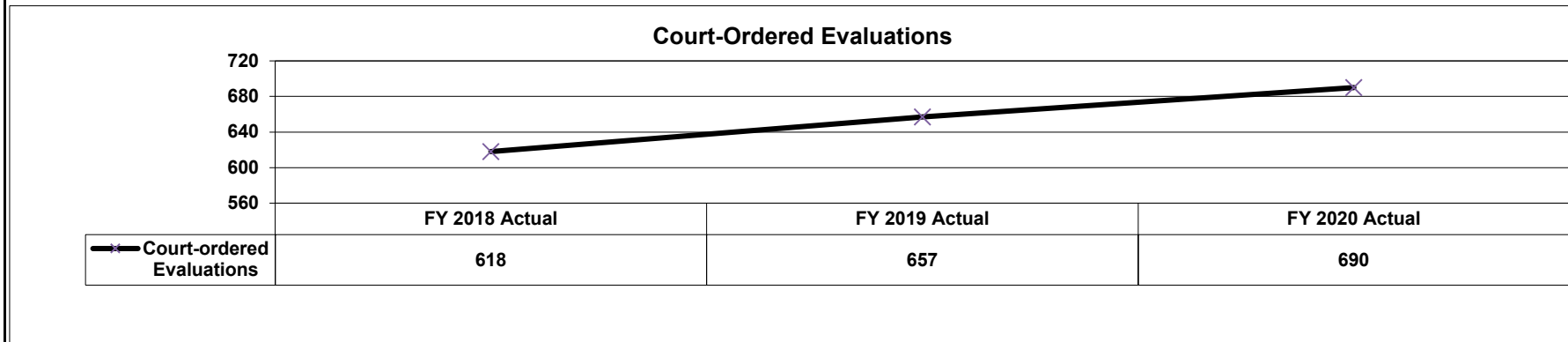
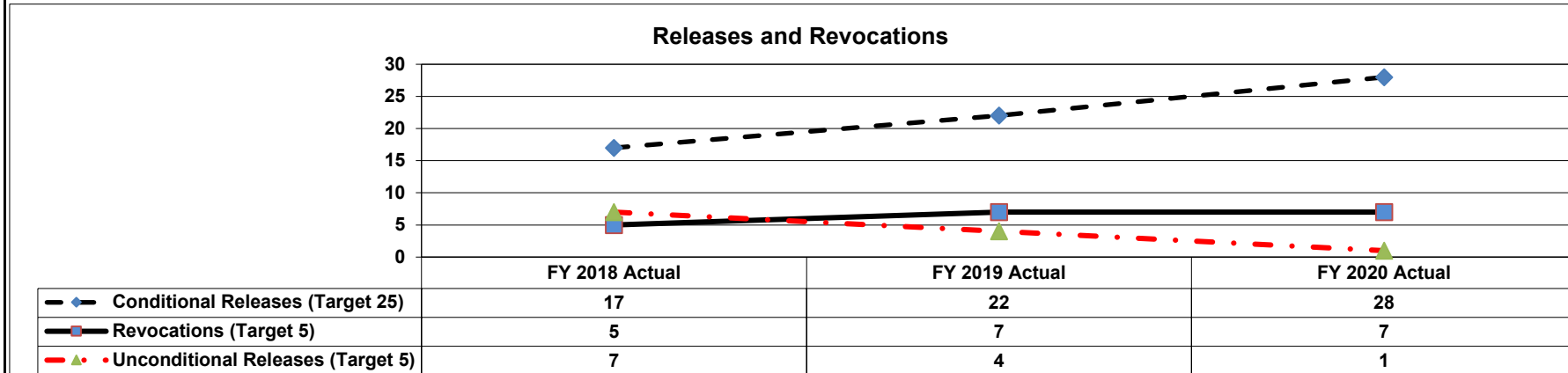
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2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



**Note:** No target available since it's based on court referrals.

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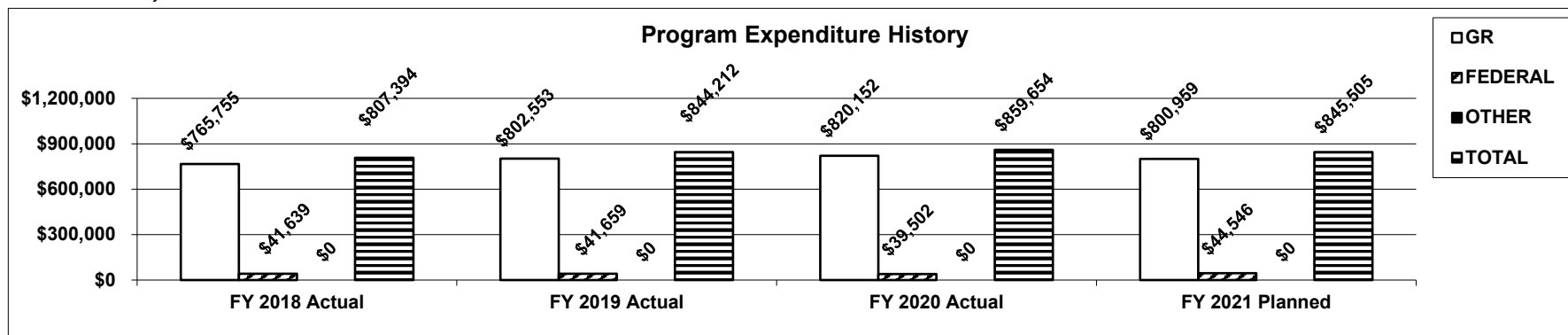
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**3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)**



**4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?**

None.

**5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)**

Chapter 552, RSMo.

**6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.**

The federal Community Mental Health Services Block Grant requires that the state maintain an aggregate level of general revenue spending for mental health services that is greater than or equal to the average of the past two years. (This is called the "Maintenance of Effort," or MOE, requirement.)

**7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.**

No.