

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Social Services

HB Section(s): 11.815

Program Name: Blind Pension Medical

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Blind Pension Medical

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Improve healthcare for blind participants

1b. What does this program do?

The Blind Pension Medical Program provides individuals with a state-only funded health care benefit package to accompany their monthly cash grant. The objectives of the program are to ensure proper health care for the general health and well-being of MO HealthNet participants, to ensure adequate supply of providers, and to increase preventive services for all MO HealthNet participants. Services provided under the Blind Pension Medical Program are reimbursed individually under the fee-for-service program and comprise .3% of the total MO HealthNet Division expenditures.

The Blind Pension Medical Program provides a state-only funded health care benefit for Blind Pension participants who do not qualify for Title XIX Medicaid. The Blind Pension benefit is provided for in law (ref. Missouri Constitution, Article III, Section 38 (b)) and includes the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Missouri resident
- United States citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Has not given away, sold, or transferred real or personal property in order to be eligible for Blind Pension
- Effective 8/28/2018, is single, or married and living with spouse, and does not own real or personal property worth more than \$29,999
- Determined to be totally blind as defined by law (up to 5/200 or visual field of less than 5 degrees in the better eye)
- Willing to have a medical treatment or an operation to cure their blindness unless they are 75 years or older
- Is not a resident of a public, private, or endowed institution except a public medical institution
- Is found to be ineligible for Supplemental Aid to the Blind
- Is found ineligible to receive federal Supplemental Security Income benefits
- Effective 8/28/2018, does not have a valid drivers license in any state or territory
- Effective 8/28/2018, may not operate a motor vehicle
- Does not publicly solicit alms
- Is of good moral character
- Effective 8/28/2018, has no sighted spouse whose income is equal to or more than 500% of the Federal Poverty Level

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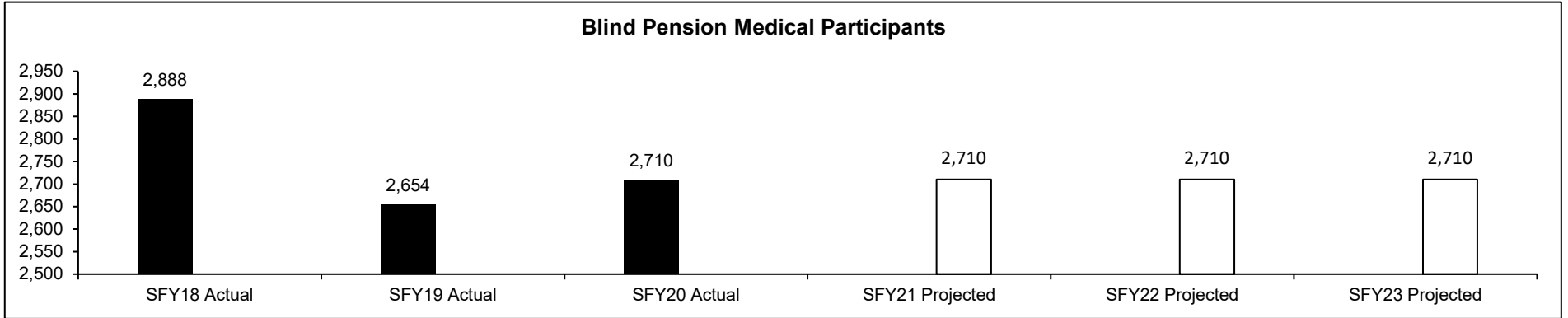
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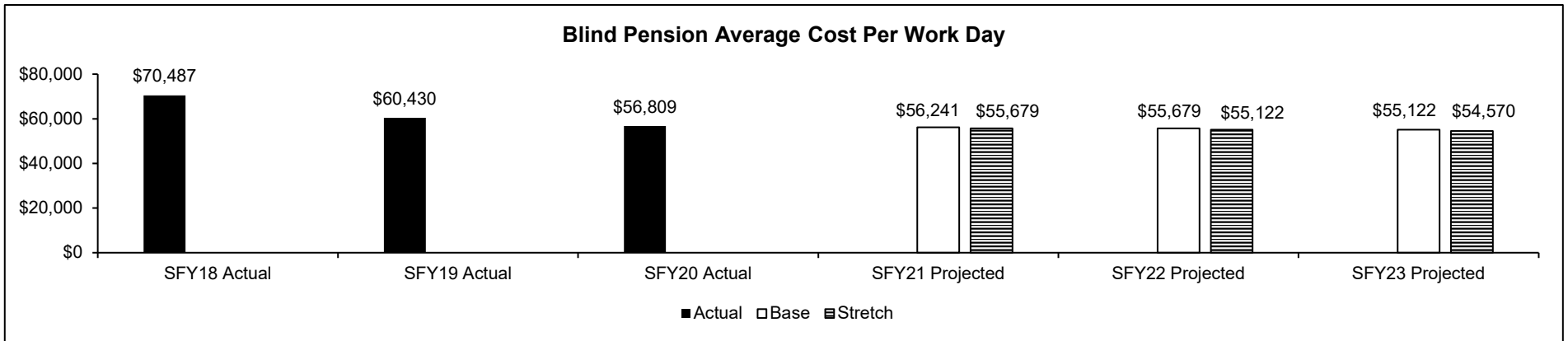
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2a. Provide an activity measure for the program.



Decrease in enrollment is due to cost containment measures. Blind Medical participants who are eligible under the Title XIV program are now receiving MO HealthNet benefits.

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



MO HealthNet provides Medicaid coverage to blind pension medical participants when appropriate. Average cost per work day is found by taking the total amount of expenditures divided by the total number of days. Stretch amounts are decreasing due to participants being moved to Medicaid when appropriate.

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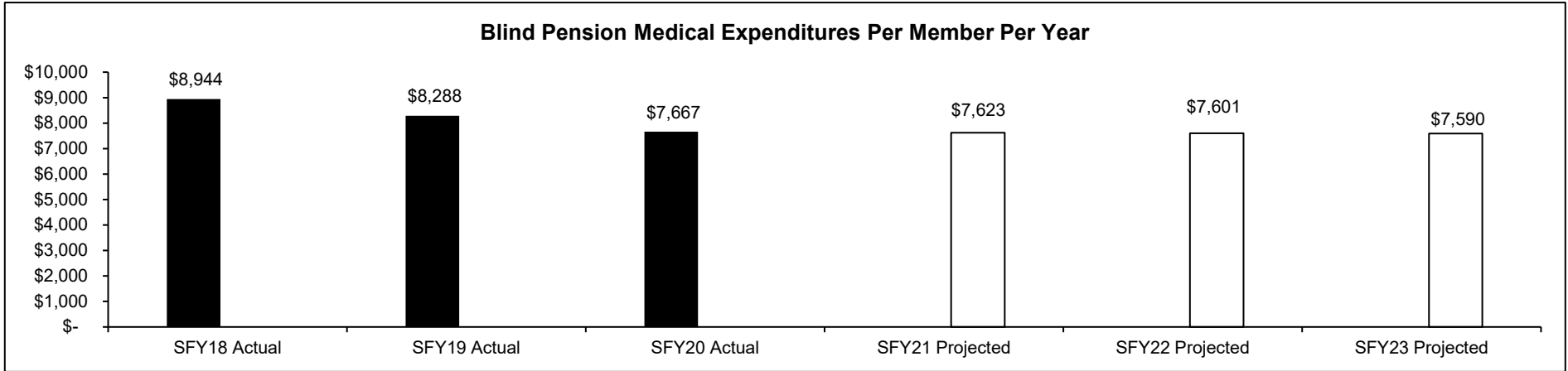
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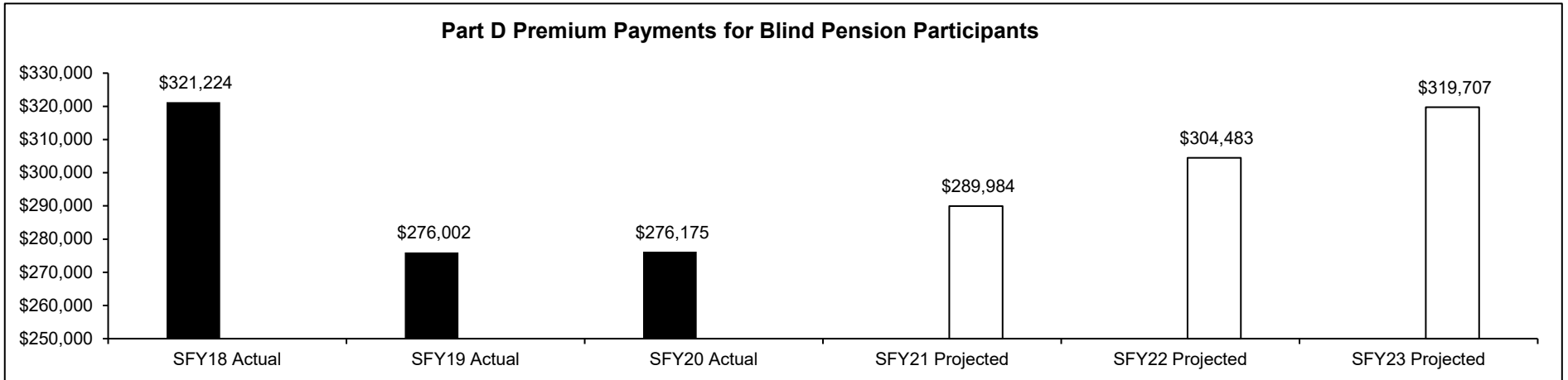
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2c. Provide a measure of the program's impact.



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



For qualifying blind pension participants, MO HealthNet pays the Medicare Part D premium.

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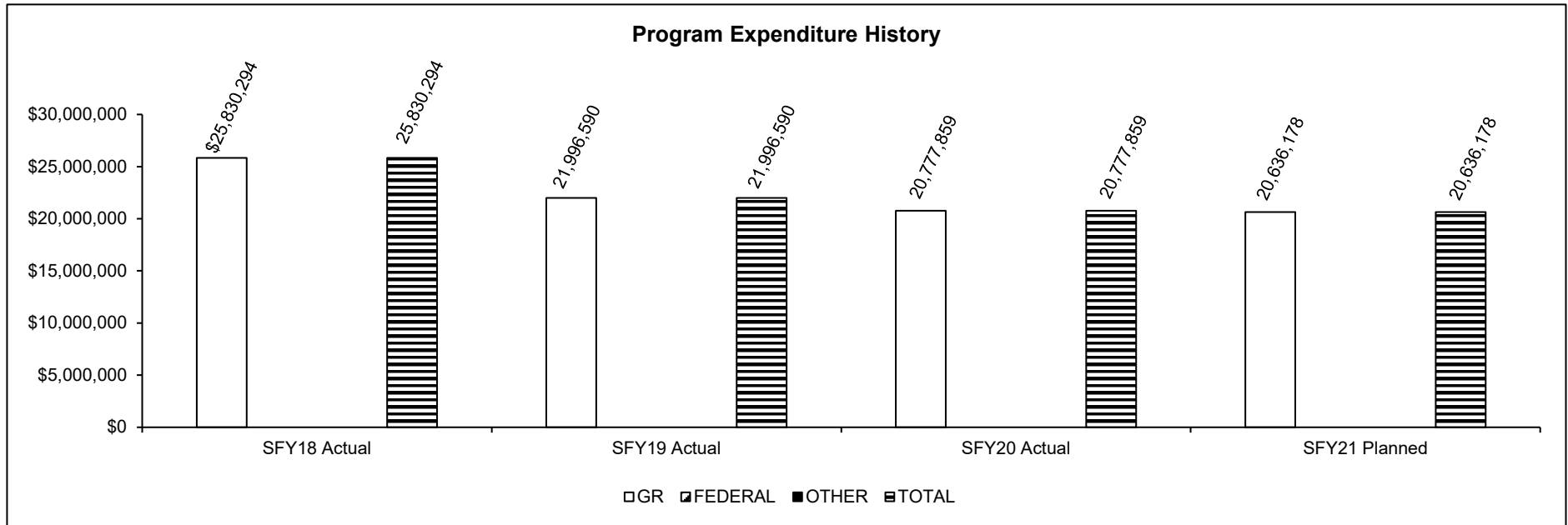
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years; planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



Planned FY2021 expenditures are net of reverted and reserves.

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

N/A

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

State statute: Sections 208.151 and 208.152, RSMo.

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

No.

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

No.