



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2040

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

This funding will be utilized to expand a long-term mentorship program into high school years for 40 children and their families. This program utilizes evidence-based engagement to achieve the following outcomes for these youth from Hillsborough, Pinellas and Pasco counties: (1) 83% of youth graduate high school, though more than 60% have a parent who did not have the necessary support to complete high school themselves; (2) 93% avoid the juvenile justice system, though 50% have a parent impacted by the criminal justice system; and (3) 98% wait until after their teen years to become parents, though 85% were born to a teen parent. Each child is paired with a professional mentor who provides reliable, one-on-one support for 3 to 4 hours per week.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	20,000	2%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	380,000	38%
Other	100,000	10%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,000,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**
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10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**



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Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

We received roughly \$150,000 in PPP loans that were forgiven, and \$170,000 in Employee Retention Credits. All of these funds were utilized to operate our professional mentoring program and to begin building a reserve toward the 12 1/2 year commitment we make to each child we enroll.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

Planning
 Design
 Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List the owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive/Administration Salaries (.58 FTE)	150,725
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Business/Liability Insurance	15,075
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Professional Mentors salaries and benefits (4.5 FTE), Program Manager Salary and Benefits (.6 FTE)	278,200
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	\$16,000 on teen engagement; \$36,000 mileage for mentors; \$4,000 on family engagement	56,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

a. What specific purpose or goal will be achieved by the funds requested?



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This funding will be utilized to expand a long-term mentorship program into high school years for 40 children and their families. This program utilizes evidence-based engagement that anticipates the following outcomes for their youth:

- 83% of youth graduate high school, though more than 60% have a parent who did not have the necessary support to complete high school themselves.
- 93% avoid the juvenile justice system, though 50 % have a parent impacted by the criminal justice system.
- 98% wait until after their teen years to become parents, though 85% were born to a teen parent.

b. What activities and services will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?

Each child is paired with a professional mentor who provides reliable, 1:1 support for 3-4 hours/week. Mentors help youth process trauma and cultivate developmentally appropriate skills in regulation of emotions, positive interactions with peers, healthy conflict management, etc. Goal setting and progress monitoring are a regular component of the interactions. In addition to working with children, mentors work with caregivers to develop parenting skills, meet needs for family stability, and help to access resources to support their own mental health and well-being.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

The activities and services listed in 14.b above are direct services. These services meet or exceed the national, evidence-based standards for mentorship and are shown to strengthen families.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

40 children and their families will be further engaged in direct mentorship. The national standard that mirrors our data is that for every child mentored, we positively engage 5.6 family members, which includes support for approximately 225 individuals.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

We will examine the outcomes of this cohort of children compared to similarly-situated children who are not engaged in our program.
 We expect the following:

- 1) Higher grades and better attendance/behavior (will track this information from records obtained from schools and/or caregivers).
- 2) Enhanced economic self-sufficiency. Youth engagement in extra-curricular activities is positively correlated to building the network, confidence, and skills required to increase likelihood of economic self-sufficiency (will measure extra-curricular activities by completion of weekly mentoring sessions that model behaviors and planning - exploring interests, introducing college and career options, encouraging extra-curricular activities that enhance social skills, supporting financial literacy that optimize youth potential).
- 3) Diversion from the criminal justice system (will measure and report rates of criminal justice system interaction).

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for the contract?

If national standards are not met, then pilot expansion should not be considered for roll-out elsewhere in Florida.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County



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c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number