



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3176

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The funding request is for the implementation DOC's Certified Recovery Peer Specialist (CRPS) that was created in HB 147 in the 2023 legislative session. The program is designed to recruit and enroll inmates who have completed the in-prison substance abuse treatment services into a program that will train them to become Certified Recovery Peer Specialists. It will provide educational training and on-the-job work experience during their incarceration, meet all requirements for certification; and eventually place them in employment as CRPS professionals upon release to the community post-incarceration. The program is a recovery oriented, career-track educational opportunity for employment.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

| Type of Funding | Amount |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Operations | 1,000,000 |
| Fixed Capital Outlay | 0 |
| Total State Funds Requested | 1,000,000 |

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

| Type of Funding | Amount | Percentage |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Total State Funds Requested (from question #6) | 1,000,000 | 100% |
| Matching Funds | | |
| Federal | 0 | 0% |
| State (excluding the amount of this request) | 0 | 0% |
| Local | 0 | 0% |
| Other | 0 | 0% |
| Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 | 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.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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

Retention of staff through pandemic.

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
 N/A

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 | Project Coordinator - manages coordination with Department; develops program training curriculum, coordinates with FL certification bodies for adherence to training requirements; supervises Project staff; responsible for data collection and reporting; as well as manages external relationships for job placement functions for program participants upon their release from incarceration. | 110,500 |
| Other Salary and Benefits | Corporate Administrative Overhead Support for Project (@ 10% of Direct OPEX) | 19,000 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Computer equipment; supplies for Project Coordinator; pro-ration of office space use for Project Coordinator; and Travel Expenses across regions to provide oversight, staff supervision, and identifying/managing job placement contracts. | 35,000 |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | Project Consultant for Evaluation of Performance/Outcome Measures | 112,000 |
| Operational Costs: Other | | |
| Salary and Benefits | Project Staff - Wages and Benefits at 30% of wage total: Peer Recovery Training Supervisor: \$75,000. Training Instructors (3 FTEs @ \$50,000 ea.): \$150,000. Post-Release Employment Specialist (4 FTEs @ \$50,000 ea.): \$150,000; and, Total Fringe Benefits @ 30% for all 7 FTEs: \$112,500. | 487,500 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Supplies & Equipment (computers, office supplies, etc.) @ \$5000/employee: \$35,000. Travel Expenses to/from training institutions on a daily basis for Trainers while training cohort is underway; Employment Specialists will be leased vehicles to seek out employment opportunities, with possible overnight travel reimbursement required as staff cover an entire region. Anticipate \$1,000/month travel. | 136,000 |



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| | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | Participant Stipend (\$1,100/participant for institutional job payment through FDC job category assignments); Anticipate 100 participants through the program in Year One, for a total expense line of \$110,000. | 100,000 |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation: | | |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering | | 0 |
| Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6) | | 1,000,000 |

14. Program Performance

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

The Project is designed to fund the DOC's implementation of HB 147 the Certified Recovery Peer Specialist program passed in 2023. It will provide educational training and on-the-job work experience during their incarceration, meet all requirements for certification; and eventually place them in employment as CRPS professionals upon release to the community post-incarceration. The program is a recovery oriented, career-track educational opportunity for employment.

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

Funding will be used by DOC to implement the CRPS with their contracted vendor for planning and implementation of the project, including program design, staff hiring/training; 2) Eligibility, Screening and Enrollment of inmates into the CRPS Training Program; 3) Educational Training; 4) In-Prison Paid Internship jobs; and 5) Certification Testing.

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

Through the implementation of the project, more inmates will receive mental health and substance abuse services due to the certification of Certified Recovery Peer Specialists. More treatment translates into greater inmate stability and reduces recidivism once they are released. The trained CRPS will be able to provide similar mental health and substance abuse treatment in the community.

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

The target population to be served by this project are inmates who have completed identified substance use treatment programs while incarcerated and meet the established eligibility criteria for the CRPS pilot program. The selection of the target population will be a joint effort between the Department leadership and contracted vendor with sample eligibility requirements.

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

This project provides the state of Florida the opportunity to aid in both of these identified need areas by strengthening the SUD workforce and supporting those with justice-involvement in obtaining a credential in an in-demand field, thus assisting them in their search for post-release employment. The CRPS program will help them become qualified and credentialed clinicians to provide treatment services both inside correctional walls, and in community-based facilities once released. Evaluation includes tracking successful completion from the program, clients who successfully obtain their certification, securing employment in the behavioral health field, and tracking the salary of the client securing this employment to ensure they are finding employment that provides them a livable wage.

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?

It is recommended that the contracting agency consider a reimbursement mechanism that is based on a partial cost-reimbursement model that only pays for personnel who are actively employed, with non-personnel costs being funded via a grant mechanism. A full grant-based reimbursement (e.g., 1/12th of an annual budget paid each month) could include dollar-for-dollar "penalty" which is calculated by deducting the salary, wages and benefit costs for any vacant position during the month.

15. Requester Contact Information



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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

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