



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3419

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

4. Project/Program Description

Funding is being pursued to upgrade four Guidance Care Center (GCC) locations in Monroe County. The planned upgrades include modernizing the floors, exchanging old and deteriorated furniture, and constructing a professional grade kitchen for meal preparation and culinary education for clients. GCC aids hundreds of Floridians yearly with quality behavioral health services. The intended improvements will provide a better living condition for clients, increase facility accessibility, and prolong the lifespan of the facilities. GCC holds a significant position in a high-demand region of South Florida, delivering essential, trauma-focused, and science-based behavioral health care to individuals lacking resources and struggling with substance abuse or mental health disorders.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,718,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,718,000

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)	1,718,000	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	1,718,000	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.

\$2,242,598 has been received through CARES act and PPP. Funds have been used for agency operating expenses, client fees and payroll.

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.

The applicant agency, Guidance/Care Center, Inc., owns the facilities.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Capital improvements for the Guidance Care Center sites, including its Personal Growth Center, to encompass updating worn-out flooring, outdated and worn furniture, and constructing a professional grade kitchen.	1,718,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,718,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Seeking funds for capital improvements to four Guidance Care Center (GCC) facilities in Monroe County. The improvements involve updating flooring, replacing outdated and worn furniture, and building a professional-grade kitchen for food preparation and client culinary training. GCC aids hundreds of Floridians yearly with quality behavioral health services. Proposed enhancements will enhance the living environment for those served, improve accessibility, and extend the lifespan of the facilities.

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

The Guidance Care Center (GCC) plays a crucial role in an underserved and high-need area of South Florida. It offers vital trauma-informed and science-based behavioral health services to under-resourced adults with substance use and/or mental health disorders.

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

GCC is the centralized receiving facility for all behavioral health services in Monroe County including: crisis support, outreach, prevention, mobile crisis response, psychiatric, intervention, individual, group & family therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation, medication assisted treatment, transportation, detox, mental health housing, and recovery support including employment and education services.

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

It is estimated that more than 800 individuals will benefit from the renovations. This diverse group encompasses people from all genders, adult age groups, racial and cultural backgrounds, socio-economic standings, as well as varied educational and employment histories. Specifically, our program aims to assist individuals with co-occurring behavioral health disorders (COD), which means they have two or more concurrent conditions. Among these are individuals struggling with mental health challenges, those without employment, economically disadvantaged individuals, elderly persons, at-risk youth, victims of crime, drug users seeking health services, individuals who are currently or have been incarcerated in the past, and those involved as drug offenders within the criminal justice system.

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

The program aims to bring about multiple positive outcomes for its participants. We anticipate that participants will show marked improvements in psychiatric symptoms and overall mental functioning. Furthermore, our goal is to bolster the economic self-sufficiency of participants; ensuring an increase in employment rates among those with co-occurring behavioral health disorders (COD) during their time in the program. Another significant objective is to reduce recidivism by diverting individuals from the criminal justice system. Also, we aim to see decreased rates among participants during the program and after their discharge. Additionally, we aspire for our participants to remain drug-free and not relapse during their treatment. To gauge the effectiveness of these interventions, we will rely on program data, documenting individual participant progress as recorded by our dedicated staff.

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?

Mandatory corrective action and performance improvement activities. Without improvement, return of funds.

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