



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Bethel Ready4Work-Tallahassee Reentry Program (R4W)

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Bill Montford

3. **Date of Submission:** 12/08/2017

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Bethel Empowerment Foundation (BEF) Ready4Work-Tallahassee Reentry Program (R4W) provides job training, job placement opportunities, and other support services for offenders on community supervision or recently released ex-offenders transitioning back into the communities and workforce of Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties. The primary objectives of the program are to: significantly reduce recidivism in the Big Bend community; cultivate a safer community; save tax dollars; strengthen, save, and sustain families of inmates and ex-offenders; and provide hope and direction to this population.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** Yes

a. If yes, which state agency? Department of Corrections

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
625,140		625,140

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
TOTAL	0	0.0 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 625,140

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes

b. In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional) 3

c. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2017-18



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

- d. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No  
e. Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18 (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
Column:	A	B	C
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *	Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)
Input Amounts:		383,000	383,000

### 10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

Yes

- a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

Estimated \$650,000 per year.

### 11. Program Performance:

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

The Bethel R4W program is a 4-6 week job training and job placement assistance program for ex-offenders not convicted of a sex offense who are drug free, on community supervision or released within the last 3 years from incarceration into the communities and workforce of Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties. The ultimate goal of the program is to prepare "returning citizens" to transition into the workforce. Securing employment will increase public safety and significantly reduce recidivism thereby saving tax dollars and enabling offenders to become law abiding, productive, taxpaying citizens of the community.

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

Direct services that are provided for participants of the Bethel R4W program include: Career Development and Life Skills Training (comprehensive 4-6 weeks training); an Individualized Plan of Care; Risk & Needs Assessment; Intensive Case Management Services; Employment Skills Assessment; Educational opportunities (GED training); Mental Health and Substance Abuse Evaluation, and if services are warranted, referral to counseling services; Job Placement Assistance/Coaching; Emergency & Transitional Housing Assistance; Transportation services (bus passes); Personal Items (clothing, toiletries, etc.); Mentors/Life Coaches; and Assistance securing identification (Florida ID, driver's license, birth certificate or social security card). Services are available to clients (ex-offenders) for up to one year.

- c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
-------------------	-------------	--------



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Administrative Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Program Director manages and directs all activities in the planning, development, implementation, monitoring and supervision of the Ready4Work Program. Annual salary is \$65,000 and \$8,450 in benefits.	73,450
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits	Funds will be used for an Administrative Assistant and an Accountant position.	55,370
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used for general office supplies, equipment, travel-related to training, utilities, and information technology-related expenses.	16,170
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits	Funding for the following positions: Intake Specialist, Case Managers, Career Development Instructor, Employment Service Job Coach, Life Coach Coordinator, and Business Development Manager. These positions provide direct services to clients in the form of: eligibility determination; drug screening and random drug testing; partnering with businesses to offer employment opportunities for clients; teaching a 4-6 week, 29 module life skills training	276,285



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

	course; employment incentives for job retention	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used for general office supplies, equipment, travel-related to training, utilities, and information technology-related expenses.	37,730
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funds will be used to provide contracted direct services for clients to include but not be limited to: bus passes for transportation to attend classes; emergency and temporary transitional housing; mental health and substance abuse assessment and treatment services; education preparedness classes; and family reunification program.	166,135
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		625,140

**d. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

Same as above.

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

The Bethel R4W program provides pre-release services to inmates who may be eligible for the program upon release and post-release services to ex-offenders who are at least 18 years of age, drug-free, actively on probation or have been released from incarceration within the last 3 years. Any offender residing in or returning to Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties who meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to participate in the program. The program does not serve sex offenders. It is anticipated that over 100 clients will be served during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

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

The expected outcome of the Bethel R4W program is a significant reduction in the recidivism rate in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson and Wakulla counties. In addition, clients participating in the program are expected to gain employment which will enable them to become self sufficient, law-abiding, productive and contributing citizens of the community. Bethel R4W program is a new reentry program that is providing tremendous benefits to the State of Florida by offering job training and job placement opportunities for ex-offenders. In the first year of operation (November 7, 2016 thorough November 6, 2017), the Bethel R4W program served 67 clients, 38 are still active, 37 clients graduated from the Career Development Class, 16 active clients are employed, 13 clients were provided transitional housing, and the recidivism rate was 1.5% for active clients in that only ONE client was re-arrested. There is an estimated cost savings to the State of Florida of \$399,570 for all active clients.

**g. 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 in the contract?**

The Department of Corrections will impose financial consequences of one percent of the total allocation if 100% of required reports are not timely filed. A penalty of \$250 per day for positions left vacant over 30 days, if a waiver is not granted.

**12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

The facility is an in-kind donation to the program from Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** RB Holmes
- b. **Organization:** Bethel Empowerment Association
- c. **Email:** rbholmes2@gmail.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)329-2418

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Bethel Empowerment Association
- b. **County:** Leon
- c. **Organization Type:**
  - ☐ For Profit
  - ☒ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
  - ☐ Local Entity
  - ☐ University or College
  - ☐ Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** RB Holmes
- e. **E-mail Address:** rbholmes2@gmail.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (850)329-2418



# *The Florida Senate*

## *Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019*

**15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.**

**a. Name:** Loretta Darity

**b. Firm:** .

**c. Email:** darityrl@gmail.com

**d. Phone Number:** (850)567-6392