



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** McCormick Research Institute – Veterans Service Center

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Tom Lee

3. **Date of Submission:** 01/17/2018

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Construction of a Veterans Service Center to provide therapy for Veterans with PTSD. The center expands access to effective equine-assisted therapies for Veterans. Program activities are designed to improve mental health and foster successful relationships in a civilian society.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

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

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
	2,000,000	2,000,000

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):** 2,000,000

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

- Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)
- What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- Complete the following Worksheet.



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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:			

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

No

11. Program Performance:

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

To build a training center and offices for Camp McCormick, intended to help transition Veterans into civilian life and provide therapy for PTSD and other combat issues.

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

Group and individual therapy centered on the healing benefit that horses facilitate, as facilitated by a licensed mental health therapist, a doctor from the partnering university, and a certified equine specialist in mental health and learning.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		



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<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Training/therapy center and staff offices	2,000,000
TOTAL		2,000,000

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

The funding will provide the capital needed to build a training/therapy center where Veterans are transitioned to civilian life and receive group and individual therapy for PTSD and other combat issues.

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

Veterans. In the current facility, the group is limited in the scope and number of Veterans they are able to help. The new training/therapy center is expected to be able to reach more than 800 veterans annually with the addition of the new building that this request would support. Many of the activities are workshops for Veterans (ex. Financial management workshop, family communication workshop, re-integrating back into civilian life), group counseling meetings, and individual counseling; however, they do not currently have a room that will accommodate more than 20 people at a time. Furthermore, due to limited indoor office space, 3-4 doctors and researchers currently share a 10x10 office space, which limits the number of clients served.

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

Veterans suffering with PTSD who have gone through this program report improved relationships with family and friends, the ability to get off medications, an improved outlook and levels of hopefulness, and increased understanding of how to relate to people and handle issues. Working in partnership with the University of Central Florida College of Medicine and a local mental health therapist, the group uses standard measurement methodologies, such as PCL-M, McChord PTSD Scoring, Beck Depression Inventory, Burns Anxiety Inventory, and Collins Revised Adult Attachment Scale to measure outcomes.

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?

Funds will be refunded if improperly expended or intentionally misused.

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.

Osceola County owns the property and existing facilities, which were specifically built for McCormick Research Institute and the work with Veterans in partnership with the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. This is the only partnership in the United States that includes a nonprofit entity, a University, and a County conducting a research study on the benefits of equine-assisted therapy for Veterans with PTSD.



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13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Thomasa Sanchez
- b. **Organization:** McCormick Research Institute
- c. **Email:** thomasa@mccormick.us
- d. **Phone Number:** (407)301-1085

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** McCormick Research Institute
- b. **County:** Osceola
- 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:** Thomasa Sanchez
- e. **E-mail Address:** thomasa@mccormick.us
- f. **Phone Number:** (407)301-1085

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

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm:** None
- c. **Email:**
- d. **Phone Number:**