



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1400

1. **Title of Project:** ChildNet - Preventing Opioid/Substance Abuse-Based Child Removals

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Lori Berman

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/04/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

There are currently, on average, nearly 50 opioid/general substance abuse based child removals each month in Broward and Palm Beach counties combined. As the center of the opioid crisis, opioid/general substance abuse based child removals have the potential to substantially increase, flooding an already strained child welfare system. To ensure child removals stemming from opioid/general substance abuse do not overwhelm the local system of care, ChildNet is working to expand Safety Management Services--preventative support services that have been proven successful at reducing future child removals. The proposed program expansion would specifically target and provide Safety Management Services to families at risk of a child removal due to opioid/general substance abuse and to supporting the reunification of families that have already experienced a child removal.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Children and Families

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		360,000	372	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No



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**10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Costs related to providing an array of Safety Management Services to 1) families at risk of a child removal due to opioid/substance abuse and 2) families that have already experienced a child removal.	500,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

The goals of the requested funds are 1) to provide Safety Management Services to 250 children (and their caregivers) impacted by opioid/general substance abuse, 2) to prevent 220 children from entering foster care or returning to foster care as a result of opioid/general substance abuse and 3) to reduce the costs associated with opioid/general substance abuse based child removals by \$5.86 million.

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

The following activities/services will be provided to meet these goals: Safety Management Services--Services designed to prevent a future child removal or return to foster care by providing support to caregivers (and their families) who are identified by a Child Protective Investigator as being at-risk of a child removal due to opioid/general substance abuse. These Safety Management Services will specifically focus on caregiver behavior, crisis management, social connection, family functioning and resource support.

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

The following direct services will be provided to citizens as part of this project: 1. Behavior Management Services- Services designed to control/correct caregiver behaviors that are dangerous or threatening to a child's safety. These services will include substance abuse treatment. 2. Crisis Management Services- Services designed to mitigate and de-escalate situations that present an immediate danger, before such danger is able to impact a child. 3. Social Connection Services- Services designed to support healthy and constructive social



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relationships by facilitating the formation of new relationships and nurturing existing relationships, both within and out of the home.

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

The target population for this project is families (children and their caregivers) residing in Broward County or Palm Beach County who were found through a Child Protective Investigation to have substance abuse indicators and are at risk of an initial child removal or their child's return to foster care. This project will serve 250 children.

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

1. Provide safety Management Services to 250 children, impacted by opioid/general substance abuse-measured by the total number of children impacted by opioid/general substance abuse that receive Safety Management Services, tracked via FSFN. 2. Prevent 220 children from entering foster care as a result of a caregiver's opioid/general substance abuse-measured by the total number of children receiving Safety Management Services that do not enter the foster care system, tracked via FSFN. 3. To reduce the total costs associated with opioid/general substance abuse based child removals by \$5.86 million-measured by multiplying the total number of children receiving Safety Management Services that do not enter the foster care system by the average total cost of the services these children would have received if removal and entry into the foster care system did occur, tracked via FSFN and internal financial records.

**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 in the contract?**

ChildNet will work with the Legislature to identify a course of action that would satisfy the Legislature's mandate to be good stewards of the state's funds.

**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.**

N/A

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Kenny Brighton
- b. **Organization:** ChildNet
- c. **E-mail Address:** kbrighton@childnet.us
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)414-6000

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** ChildNet
- b. **County:** Broward
- c. **Organization Type:**
  - For Profit
  - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - Non Profit 501(c) (4)



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- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (Please specify)

**d. Contact Name:** Kenny Brighton

**e. E-mail Address:** kbrighton@childnet.us

**f. Phone Number:** (954)414-6000

#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

**a. Name:** Chris Dawson

**b. Firm Name:** Gray-Robinson

**c. E-mail Address:** chris.dawson@gray-robinson.com

**d. Phone Number:** (407)843-8880