



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1638

1. Title of Project: Heart Gallery Child Finder

2. Senate Sponsor: Lauren Book

3. Date of Submission: 02/15/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The Child Finder Technology recruits, trains, adoptive and vets prospective parents across our state and assists with matching these families with children waiting in foster care. The technology has been used for more than 20 years in the private sector and it has been launched in Central Florida with the local Heart Galleries for the past 18 months to much success. Funding is being requested to bring it statewide to speed up the process and introduce 21st century training and recruitment to children that have been TPR'd by the courts (terminated parental rights) and decrease the wait time for parents and children to become forever families. This will create efficiency, provide a quantitative data of matches, and expose areas of opportunities in the current system of care.

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

State Agency Contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,050,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	1,050,000

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)	1,050,000	75.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	350,000	25.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	1,400,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

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

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



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Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project Director in 14 Heart Galleries across the state at \$35,000 each.	490,000
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Technology Feature for Program Function at \$25,000 x 14 Heart Galleries statewide.	350,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Marketing/Webinar for each of the 14 Heart Galleries in Florida at \$15,000 each.	210,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,050,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The program will increase the amount of prospective parents with targeted recruitment based on research and the existing program in Central Florida. It will decrease the bottleneck currently existing in the system of care where eligible parents are not being matched in a timely manner and they lose interest or adopt overseas or via private adoption. It will most importantly create forever families for children in foster care through no fault of their own.

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

Targeted recruitment of prospective parents, matching services of children waiting for adoption in state care, training of prospective parents with the current required training and licensing classes, support of current community based care staff, quantitative data, less paperwork, and decrease in wait time for children and families.

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

Wrap around service support of prospective foster/adoptive parents, matching assistance, parent training classes required to adopt in the State of Florida, and a home study.

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

Children in Foster Care and Prospective Adoptive Families in Florida. The program expects to impact thousands of children and families statewide.

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



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The data provided with our technology and the Partnership for Strong Families of Central Florida are tangible outcomes of families recruited, parents trained, and matching assistance with children in care. This information is not currently tracked and will allow us to support and strengthen the current system while decreasing the number of families that slip through the cracks while not receiving immediate support with their inquiries to adopt. There will be also a decrease in cost for children in care as more permanency will be created through service.

- 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?**

Cessation of contract service.

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:** Yvette DuBose
- b. **Organization:** Heart Gallery of Broward
- c. **E-mail Address:** yvette@heartgalleryofbroward.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)918-3008

14. **Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Heart Gallery of Florida
- b. **County:** Statewide
- 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:** Matthew Straeb
- e. **E-mail Address:** mstraeb@gmail.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (954)850-6606

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Yolanda C. Jackson
- b. **Firm Name:** Becker
- c. **E-mail Address:** yjackson@beckerlawyers.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (305)431-2976