



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1709

1. Title of Project: The Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers

2. Senate Sponsor: Lizbeth Benacquisto

3. Date of Submission: 02/19/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The investigation and intervention of child abuse, especially child sexual abuse, is very challenging for the children, families, and responding professionals. Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) coordinate the multidisciplinary response to these allegations in a child-friendly setting where the needs of the child are the primary concern. Within this single setting, the combined resources and expertise of child protective services (CPS), law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, forensic interviewers, mental health, and medical professionals collaborate to limit any additional trauma to the child and family, while also assuring a quality and competent investigation and intervention which leads to healing and hope. Funds provided will be used to support the staff and operations at the Children's Advocacy Centers and to include the coordination of the Multidisciplinary Team meetings.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Legal Affairs and Attorney General

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	
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	9.0%
Federal	212,000	3.8%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	4,573,240	82.7%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	245,735	4.4%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	5,530,975	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19	4,573,240	500,000	1282A	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1709

- a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 500000

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Sub-awards to 27 Child Advocacy Centers	500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) use a multidisciplinary approach to serve child victims that coordinates trauma informed services in a child centered environment. Funding will assist the CACs to improve and expand the consolidation of community, investigative, legal and social service programs necessary to deliver service to children who are victims of physical and/or sexual abuse, children who witness violent crime or domestic violence, child victims of trafficking, children who are victims of neglect or who are endangered due to drugs or alcohol abuse and their families or non offending caregivers. During FY 2016-17 the number of unduplicated children receiving services at a CAC increased by 2.75%. This is on trend with the approximate 3% rise between each of the previous fiscal years, excluding the 12% increase that occurred between FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16 when two additional CACs began receiving legislative funding.

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

The Child Advocacy Centers coordinate and facilitate the Multidisciplinary Teams in their community which include but are not limited to Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Child Protective Services, Medical, Mental Health and Victim Advocacy services. The services provided by the Advocacy Centers include: trauma assessments, case management, forensic interviews, specialized interviews, mental health therapy, medicals and referrals to community agencies.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1709

Services provided to child victims and their non offending caretakers include: therapy, medical exams, psychological evaluations, forensic and specialized interviews, case management, crisis intervention and referrals to community services. These services not only assist victims and their families directly, but support the work of other agencies including law enforcement, prosecution and other community agencies serving victims.

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

The target population are children who are victims of physical and sexual abuse, trafficking victims, witness to crime, are drug endangered and who witness domestic violence. It is anticipated that the Child Advocacy Centers will serve more than 23,000 unduplicated victims.

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

Child victims and their families will receive the necessary services, including crisis intervention, mental health treatment, case management, medical exams and referrals to community agencies. The Child Advocacy Centers provide monthly financial invoices, quarterly data statements and receive on site monitoring to demonstrate that services are provided.

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?

The current standard penalties for noncompliance are adequate.

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:** Cindy Vallely
- b. **Organization:** Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** executivedirector@fncac.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)671-4791

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers, Inc.
- 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)



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1709

- d. **Contact Name:** Cindy Vallely
- e. **E-mail Address:** executivedirector@fncac.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (850)671-4791

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Ronald L. Book
- b. **Firm Name:** Ronald L. Book, P.A.
- c. **E-mail Address:** ron@rlbookpa.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)224-3427