



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1737

1. Title of Project: Help Me Grow Florida

2. Senate Sponsor: Anitere Flores

3. Date of Submission: 02/11/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

Help Me Grow Florida® is a comprehensive and integrated system designed to promote the healthy development and well-being of all Florida's children age birth to eight, identify developmental and/or behavioral concerns, link families to community-based services and supports, and build collective impact amongst local communities. The services that children are able to access through Help Me Grow Florida's early detection and intervention not only improves the chances of a child developing to their full potential, but accrues economic gains for the State of Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Office of Early Learning

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,691,043
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	2,691,043

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)	2,691,043	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	2,691,043	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19	1,808,957	425,000	84	No

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

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 2,691,043



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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-recipient contracts with local 2-1-1 agencies to implement Help Me Grow in their service areas. Non-recurring funds will support existing affiliates as well as provide needed funds for expansion of services into additional counties.	2,691,043
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		2,691,043

11. Program Performance:

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

The goal of Help Me Grow Florida is to promote healthy development for every child in our state. Help Me Grow (HMG) is a unique, comprehensive, and integrated statewide system designed to address the need for early identification of developmental and/or behavioral concerns, and then to link children and their families to community-based developmental and behavioral services and supports.

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

Help Me Grow supports families, child health care, early care and education, and human service providers. The community can use Help Me Grow to identify early signs of developmental or behavioral concerns and the available community resources to address their needs. Without Help Me Grow, this sensitive period of opportunity may be missed due to untimely assessments or difficulty in finding and navigating appropriate resources.

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

Establishing a telephone access point that links families of young children with sources of support and services to address concerns about their child’s health, development, behavior and learning in a child’s first eight years of life. Providing developmental screenings and comprehensive care coordination with follow-up services to parents/caregivers and child health care providers. Conducting child health care and education provider outreach trainings to educate our community about child development and the importance of early detection and intervention. Conducting community outreach to promote the use of Help Me Grow and to provide



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networking opportunities for the community. Data collection to understand all aspects of the Help Me Grow system, including the identification of gaps and barriers in order to provide more effective services.

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

Children from birth to eight years old as well as their parents. There are 4000+ families currently provided with services. Help Me Grow Florida is looking to expend this number so that all families can receive care coordination and developmental services.

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

Providing access to developmental and behavioral screenings to detect mental health concerns which would result in a referral for mental health services reducing the need for costly intervention later on. This will be measured by keeping track of the percent of successful connections to infant mental health services, percent of parents/caregivers reporting their child's behavior and/or mental health has improved, percent of parents/caregivers reporting that they have access to people they can talk to for advice and emotional support.

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?

Payments shall be delayed for any deliverables that are not satisfactorily completed until all deficiencies are corrected and accepted by the Office of Early Learning. A corrective action plan will be imposed requiring the contractor to address all performance deficiencies. Failure to comply will result in a breach of contract. Financial consequences are also imposed including withholding of payment, a request to redo the work or reduced payment.

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:** Phyllis Kalifeh
- b. **Organization:** Children's Forum, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** pkalifeh@thechildrensforum.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)487-6300

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Children's Forum, Inc.
- b. **County:** Leon
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity



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University or College

Other (Please specify)

d. Contact Name: Phyllis Kalifeh

e. E-mail Address: pkalifeh@thechildrensforum.com

f. Phone Number: (850)487-6300

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name: Claudia Davant

b. Firm Name: Adams St Advocates

c. E-mail Address: Claudia@adamsstadvocates.com

d. Phone Number: (850)567-0797