



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1745

1. Title of Project: Family Reconnection Program

2. Senate Sponsor: Perry Thurston

3. Date of Submission: 02/12/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

A Vision of Redemption is a grassroots 501(c)3 non-profit organization serving children and families affected by incarceration. Our vision is to provide a vehicle where parents who are incarcerated can maintain a relationship with their children and our mission is to protect the family even while they're serving time. The organization's programs facilitate the development of self-confidence, emotional wellness, and economic self-sufficiency for these families by creating a network of resources and a foundation of family reunification. The Family reconnection program is built on evidence-based best practices and includes parenting classes, promoting literacy between parent and child through the storybook program, transporting children and families for monthly visits, support group and wrap around services to help families better their outcome.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Corrections

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

| Type of Funding | Amount |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Operations | 880,159 |
| Fixed Capital Outlay | |
| Total State Funds Requested | 880,159 |

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) | 880,159 | 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 | 880,159 | 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? Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. \$105,000

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

| Spending Category | Description | Amount |
|--|---|----------------|
| Administrative Costs: | | |
| Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits | The salary for 2 full-time employees | 135,000 |
| Other Salary and Benefits | FICA, FUTA, TAXES, Workers comp. (10% of salaries) for project manager and executive director, fringe benefits | 32,855 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Inmate Parenting, Storybook program, transportation, caregiver support program, family support and operational costs. | 439,754 |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | Drivers, instructors, counselors, payroll services, and evaluators. | 92,550 |
| Operational Costs: | | |
| Salary and Benefits | Accountant and an administrative assistant. | 75,000 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | 7 vans (anticipated lifespan for 5 years). | 105,000 |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation: | | |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering | | |
| Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6) | | 880,159 |

11. Program Performance:

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

The specific goals that will be achieved are: Reconnecting families, lower recidivism rates for incarcerated parents, lower behavioral infractions for incarcerated parents, positive relationship building with parent and child, promote literacy for child and parent, provide caregiver support and resources to better aid family's financial burdens.

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

1. Parenting classes for inmates to learn how to interact with their children
 2. Storybooks to parent and child to serve as icebreakers for 1st visits and promote literacy for child and parent.
 3. Transportation for regular monthly visits to and from prison for children and caregivers
 4. Host support group for caregivers where resources are shared to aid with the family's needs

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

To address these daily struggles and adverse outcomes of children with incarcerated parents, A Vision of Redemption's (AVOR's) Family Reconnection Program (FRP) is built on evidence based best practices and includes the following components:

- Using the Parenting Inside Out Curriculum to help returning citizens improve relationships with their children and spouses or significant others;
- Providing Storybooks to returning citizens and their children to serve as icebreakers for first visits and promote family literacy for first and



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subsequent visits; •Assisting in transporting children and their caregivers to and from prison for regular, monthly visits with incarcerated parents; and •Hosting a support group for caregivers so they can share their experiences and access other resources to strengthen family cohesion.

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

Inmate parents, children of inmates, custodial parents/caregivers who are Broward Residents.

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

Assisting imprisoned parents with fostering and maintaining meaningful relationships; •Helping imprisoned parents and their children build vocabulary and literacy skills; •Assisting children in learning patience, developing listening skills, and using their imaginations; •Facilitating visitations to aid in the management of the inmate population. Expectation for the program is to reduce recidivism and behavioral infractions, improve literacy skills for parents and children and increase family cohesion.

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?

N/A

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:** Robin Figueroa
- b. **Organization:** A Vision of Redemption, Inc
- c. **E-mail Address:** robin@avisionofredemption.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)635-2131

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** A Vision of Redemption, Inc
- b. **County:** Broward
- 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:** Robin Figueroa
- e. **E-mail Address:** robin@avisionofredemption.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (954)635-2131



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15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm Name:** None
- c. **E-mail Address:**
- d. **Phone Number:**