



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2173

1. Title of Project: Operation G.R.O.W.

2. Senate Sponsor: David Simmons

3. Date of Submission: 01/17/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The funding will be utilized to support and expand Operation G.R.O.W. (Giving Real Opportunities for Work), which includes G.R.O.W. More and G.R.O.W. Out. This program provides an opportunity for a select group of our 90+ developmentally and/or intellectually disabled specialists to learn appropriate employment and personal success skills. We provide instruction in time management, budgeting, business etiquette, travel training and more. The participating specialists also intern at various host businesses to enhance their employment skill sets into practice. Currently, we partner with four different organizations and support 25 specialists enrolled in the G.R.O.W. program. Each week, we volunteer at Northland Church, The Sharing Center and Goodwill Industries. Additionally, we staff the Inspire Your Day Cafe, located within the Seminole County Sheriff's Office. The program helps to better prepare the specialists for potential competitive employment opportunities.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Agency for Persons with Disabilities

State Agency Contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	367,077
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	367,077

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)	367,077	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	367,077	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		250,000		No

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



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- a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 200,000

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Portion of Executive Director salary and the Program Coordinator's salary and benefits	61,523
Other Salary and Benefits	Portion of the Finance Officer and Administrative Assistants salary	25,419
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Due to program growth, we are requesting an additional employment coach, for a total of 3 employment coaches.	92,561
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The funding would pay for portions of the facility operational costs, to include; technology, utilities, insurance, repairs and renovations. Also, related supplies, training and travel expenses. We are in need of a passenger van to transport the specialists to and from their work sites.	174,724
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	We have hired a behavioral analyst and a special education teacher as consultants and will continue to require their services.	12,850
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		367,077

11. Program Performance:

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

Operation G.R.O.W. is an individualized program focusing on the personal and professional success of the specialists. The employment coaches assist the specialists in mock interviews, business etiquette, money management, budgeting, problem solving, public transportation and time management. The goal is to aid the specialist in obtaining employment in a competitive work environment.

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

Currently, we hold classroom instruction with the specialists to improve their employment skills. We also host pre-employment classes to address specific "success in the work place" traits. We will continue to host these classes to at least 25 of the 90+ specialists enrolled in our program. We also escort these individuals to 4 different off-site locations each week to put into practice the skills they have learned.

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



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We have more than 90 specialists enrolled in our program, each specialist is a citizen of Seminole or Orange County. Each specialists will be afforded the opportunity to participate in the G.R.O.W. program, permitting they have the desire and ability to do so. Our program also provides respite care to the caregivers of our specialists, allowing them to maintain gainful employment and/or tend to other needs while their loved one is attending our program.

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

Operation G.R.O.W. provides services to developmentally and intellectually disabled adults. Currently, we have 91 individuals enrolled in our program, 25 of which are participating in Operation G.R.O.W. During the course of the year, some individuals may obtain employment in a competitive environment and other specialists will enter the G.R.O.W. program in their place.

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

We anticipate a percentage of the program participants will obtain part or full-time employment during their enrollment in the program. This would allow the specialists to become more independent financially. The outcome will be measured by the number of specialists obtaining employment in a competitive work environment, earning minimum wage or greater.

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?

Delay funding until deliverables or performance measures are met.

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:** Stephanie Ryan
- b. **Organization:** Inspire of Central Florida
- c. **E-mail Address:** sryan@inspirecfl.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (407)699-4419

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Inspire of Central Florida
- b. **County:** Seminole
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College



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Other (Please specify)

- d. Contact Name:** Stephanie Ryan
- e. E-mail Address:** sryan@inspirecfl.org
- f. Phone Number:** (407)699-4419

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

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