



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2244

**1. Title of Project:** Bethel Ready4Work-Tallahassee Reentry Program

**2. Senate Sponsor:** Bill Montford

**3. Date of Submission:** 02/22/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

The Bethel Empowerment Foundation (BEF) Ready4Work-Tallahassee Reentry Program (R4W) provides job training, job placement opportunities, and other support services for offenders on community supervision or recently released ex-offenders transitioning back into the communities and workforce of Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties. The primary objectives of the program are to: significantly reduce recidivism in the Big Bend community; cultivate a safer community; save tax dollars; strengthen, save, and sustain families of inmates and ex-offenders; and provide hope and direction to this population.

**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	651,660
Fixed Capital Outlay	
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>651,660</b>

**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)	651,660	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>651,660</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		150,000		No

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

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 650000.



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Program Director manages and directs all activities in the planning, development, implementation, monitoring and supervision of the Ready4Work Program. Annual salary is \$65,000 and \$8,450 in benefits.	73,450
Other Salary and Benefits	Funds will be used for an Administrative Assistant and an Accountant position.	58,460
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used for general office supplies, equipment, travel-related to training, utilities, and information technology-related expenses.	16,170
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Funding are needed for the following positions: Intake Specialist, Case Manager, Career Development Instructor, Employment Service Job Coach, Life Coach Coordinator, and the Business Development Manager. These positions provide direct services to clients in the form of: eligibility determination; drug screening and random drug testing; partnering with businesses to offer employment opportunities for clients; teaching a 4-6 week, 29 module life skills training course; employment incentives for	299,715
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used for general office supplies, equipment, travel-related training, utilities, and information technology-related expenses.	37,730
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funds will be used to provide contracted direct services for clients to include but not be limited to: bus passes for transportation to attend classes; emergency and temporary transitional housing; mental health and substance abuse assessment and treatment services; education preparedness classes; and family reunification program.	166,135
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>651,660</b>

#### 11. Program Performance:

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



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The Bethel R4W program is a 4-6 week job training and job placement assistance program for ex-offenders not convicted of a sex offense who are drug free, on community supervision or released within the last 3 years from incarceration into the communities and workforce of Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties. The ultimate goal of the program is to prepare "returning citizens" to transition into the workforce. Securing employment will increase public safety and significantly reduce recidivism thereby saving tax dollars and enabling offenders to become law abiding, productive, taxpaying citizens of the community.

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

Direct services that are provided for participants of the Bethel R4W program include: Career Development and Life Skills Training (comprehensive 4-6 weeks training); an Individualized Plan of Care; Risk & Needs Assessment; Intensive Case Management Services; Employment Skills Assessment; Educational opportunities (GED training); Mental Health and Substance Abuse Evaluation, and if services are warranted, referral to counseling services; Job Placement Assistance/Coaching; Emergency & Transitional Housing Assistance; Transportation services (bus passes); Personal Items (clothing, toiletries, etc.); Mentors/Life Coaches; and Assistance securing identification (Florida ID, driver's license, birth certificate or social security card). Services are available to clients (ex-offenders) for up to one year.

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

Same as above.

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

The Bethel R4W program provides pre-release services to inmates who may be eligible for the program upon release and post-release services to ex-offenders who are at least 18 years of age, drug-free, actively on probation or have been released from incarceration within the last 3 years. Any offender residing in or returning to Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson or Wakulla counties who meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to participate in the program. The program does not serve sex offenders. It is anticipated that over 100 clients will be served during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

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

The expected outcome of the Bethel R4W program is a significant reduction in the recidivism rate in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson and Wakulla counties. In addition, clients participating in the program are expected to gain employment which will enable them to become self sufficient, law-abiding, productive and contributing citizens of the community. Bethel R4W program is a new reentry program that is providing tremendous benefits to the State of Florida by offering job training and job placement opportunities for ex-offenders. In the 2nd Quarter Return on Investment Report (ROI) to the EOG, it was stated that the "meaningful measure was the recidivism rate of 2.5% (2 clients recidivated out of 80 clients served). The corresponding cost savings to the state for clients who did not recidivate was \$221,972.40. Employment income (\$129,831.92) from clients who contributed to the positive ROI for the period." There was a 457% ROI based on economic impact relative to state dollars expended.

**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?**



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There are 4 performance measures each with consequences for failure to comply, ranging from: \$150 per quarter, per participant, if 85% of program participants do not remain active; \$1,000 per occurrence for failure to file timely monthly reports; one percent of the contract value if job retention rate falls below the 65% threshold; and one percent of the value of the contract for each instance of repeated deficiency.

**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.**

No. The facility is an in-kind donation to the program from Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Tallahassee, FL

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Rev. Dr. R.B. Holmes, Jr.
- b. **Organization:** Bethel Empowerment Foundation, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** rbholmes2@gmail.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)329-2418

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Bethel Empowerment Foundation, Inc./Bethel Ready4Work-Tallahassee Reentry Program
- b. **County:** Leon
- 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:** Lucretia Shaw Collins
- e. **E-mail Address:** collins.lucretia@ready4worktally.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (850)329-2418

**15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** Lucretia Shaw Collins
- b. **Firm Name:** Bethel Empowerment Foundation, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** collins.lucretia@ready4worktally.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)329-2418