



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2245

1. Title of Project: Living Stones' COVE Learning Academy

2. Senate Sponsor: Bill Montford

3. Date of Submission: 02/22/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

Leon County has over 2,000 children with an incarcerated parent. LSI provides trained professionals to prevent children from entering the juvenile justice system by offering in-school school academic learning support through Children of Value (COVE) Learning Academy. Its focus are in-home assessments, diverse learning methods, mentor, wellness sessions, life skills, and social and emotional learning (SEL), as well as referrals to pediatric behavioral counseling. The goal is to reverse trauma children experience. LSI provides children with access to a well-rounded education while cultivating safe and healthy school conditions. Currently, COVE Learning Academy operates its in-school program at one (1) Middle School and three (3) elementary Schools, expanding to three (3) different elementary and another middle school within Leon County. The proposed goal is to expand to additional sixteen (16) elementary and eight (8) middle schools to include Leon, Gadsden and Jefferson County.

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

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	305,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	305,000

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)	305,000	82.4%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	30,000	8.1%
Local	10,000	2.7%
Other	25,000	6.8%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	370,000	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. 305000

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director, 40 Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	55,405
Other Salary and Benefits	Health/Insurance Benefits plus car/travel allowance	5,055
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Education conference and training, laptops for three (3) staff, materials and supplies for curriculum	11,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Legal (Human Services) and Accounting (Audit and Form 990)	15,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Two (2) Case Managers, 40 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Health/Insurance Benefits, and One (1) Administrative Assistant to include Health/Insurance Benefits	93,040
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Rent, Utilities, Phone, Office supplies, Postage, Travel, Mileage reimbursement, General Liability & auto Insurance, SEL curriculum and training, Chromebook for in-school instruction	23,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Five (5) Classroom teachers for fifteen (15) schools, Upgrade Database for install and implementation to collect outcome measurements	102,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	N/A	0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		305,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The goal of COVE Learning Academy is to reverse trauma children experience. Living Stones' focus are in-home assessments, diverse learning methods, mentor, wellness sessions, life skills, and social and emotional learning (SEL), as well as referrals to pediatric behavioral counseling for a total of 120 children in year one, 240 children year two and three within Leon, Gadsden and Jefferson Counties.

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

Activities and services include setting goals, finding agreement and stability among family members through role playing, games, solving puzzles, lessons on bullying, and crime prevention; advocating for children's needs and building strategies to handle stressful situations with parental involvement in Parents Engaged for Life and 24/7 Dad; and connecting children with deeper resources, like health and wellness sessions, counseling,



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behavior analysis, psychological evaluations, and connecting mentors with building their social and emotional skills.

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

LSI establishes best time to meet one day a week at respective schools during in school or after school. Individual sessions are an alternative. Professional staff provides life skills and social and emotional proficiency. Another component of the class concentrates on understanding public safety and crime prevention. Other topics include: communication skills, anger management, conflict resolution, bullying and dating violence, decision making, health and fitness, and STEM activities.

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

Target population are children, ages six (6) to fourteen (14) years with an incarcerated parent, a parent on probation, or at-risk as homeless and behavioral issues at ten (10) elementary and five (5) middle schools. LSI with referrals from the school identifies up to fifteen (15) children that may benefit from the program and involvement with a counselor or in group mentor sessions for a total of ninety (120) children. Projection is 240 children in Year Two (2) and Three (3).

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

Results are 100% participation (120 children) receive needs assessment, intake, and evaluations; 80% (96 children) learn new life/social skills training; 60% (72 children) learn new methods, improvement in STEM and test scores and grades; 85% (102 children) improve their knowledge of public safety and crime prevention; and 60% (72 children) have better behavior in school and home utilizing SEL (social and emotional learning). LSI utilizes pre- and post-surveys with in-take assessments.

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?

Living Stones' goal is to identify the issues immediately and put corrective action in place to meet the deliverables or performance measures.

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:** Gary Montgomery
- b. **Organization:** Living Stones International, Inc.
- c. **E-mail Address:** gary@welivingstones.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (850)219-0091

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Living Stones International, Inc.
- b. **County:** Leon



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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: Josephine Gamboa

e. E-mail Address: jc@welivingstones.org

f. Phone Number: (850)219-0091

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

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