



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1206

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The Exchange Club Family Center provides in-home parent education services to families referred to the Exchange Parent Aide program which is designed to assist families identified as 'at-risk' for child abuse and neglect. Parent Aides teach skills and disciplinary techniques designed to provide children with a safe, stable and nurturing environment in which to grow. Parent Aide serves families with children of all ages who do not qualify for services through the local CBC providers due to funding restrictions in the Families First Prevention Services Act. Exchange Parent Aide is a nationally recognized, evidence-based program with over 40 years of research and excellent outcomes. With state funding in Fiscal Year 2019-20, the agency entered into a contract with DCF on August 22, 2019 which has allowed us to expand services in Duval and Nassau. We have already received 14 referrals in the first 3 weeks which far exceeds DCF contract requirements of 6 referrals per month.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted? Yes No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="353,312"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	353,312

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="353312"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	353,312	100 %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes No
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="2019-20"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="200,000"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="314A"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes No
- If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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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	Administrative costs: Executive Director @ .25 plus Finance and HR services/fees.	40,000
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	4 F/T Parent Aides @ \$38,000 (\$152,000); Parent Aide Supervisor F/T (\$48,000), and one P/T Peer Recovery Specialist at \$15.00/hr x 25 hours per week/52 weeks (\$19,500) plus H.R.A. benefits for F/T staff @ \$360/mo/person (\$25,920) and FICA @ .0765 (\$16,792)	262,212
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mileage reimbursement for Parent Aide staff @ 45 cents/mile (\$25,000); Cell phone service and Microsoft 365 monthly fees (\$3,600); Materials for families, workbooks and other supplies (\$6,500); Emergency Flex Funds/Incentive Funds for families enrolled in the program (\$10,000); Occupancy (\$6,000)	51,100
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		353,312



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11. Program Performance

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

The primary goal for the funding requested is to help families stay safe, stable and together, eliminating the need to remove the child from the home and subsequently reduce the number of children entering foster care. This funding will allow us to serve an additional 126 families which equates to 302 children and 214 adults based on the average Parent Aide case (1.7 adults and 2.4 children per household.) This will result in substantial savings for the State of Florida as DCF estimates overall cost per child for one year in foster care ranges between \$40,000 - \$80,000 while cost per child for Exchange Parent Aide is LESS THAN \$1,200 PER CHILD ANNUALLY. We serve any family in need with no restrictions due to income or age of child. The second goal of this program is to give priority to families with at least one parent in recovery for Substance Abuse by providing supplemental curriculum developed by the Institute for Health and Recovery in Boston specifically for this population.

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

Staff will provide Parent Aide services to families referred to the program by DCF Child Protective Investigators for families who do not rise to the level of removal of the child from the home, but are in need of services to enhance parenting skills and prevent future DCF intervention. Professionally trained, bachelors' level staff will visit the family to complete an Initial Needs Assessment, establish goals based on the needs of the family and visit the family home weekly for 60-90 minutes for 6 - 12 months to provide on-going instruction using evidence-based curriculum. Each participating adult completes an initial Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory (AAPI) and a post-AAPI upon case closure. The AAPI is a nationally accepted tool used to assess a parent's attitudes and beliefs in five critical constructs associated with child abuse and neglect. After successful completion of the program, an adult AAPI post-test score will show improvement from the pre-test AAPI score.

c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

Parents and any other adult residing in the home are invited to participate in the program. Weekly home visits are made to provide instruction, assess the participants' ability to utilize and demonstrate what they learn, and to ultimately provide a safe, stable and nurturing home for their children. The children are observed during visits and the Parent Aide will make referrals to community partners throughout the time the family is involved with the program for any identified needs. Goals established during the first three home visits are monitored and updated as goals are successfully completed. These goals are designed to assist the parents in providing a quality home life and foundation for their children to grow and may include, for example: completing educational goals, establishing stable housing, employment goals, being more involved in child's education, etc. Parent Aide staff are trained, mandated reporters and will report any observable signs of child abuse or neglect.

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

Any family in need of services is eligible without regard to race, religion, gender or income level, and the program accommodates families with children of all ages, there are no age restrictions. Our target population includes low and moderate risk families deemed 'at-risk' by DCF, but not eligible for in-home services under the new FFPSA funding criteria. We give priority to families wherein one or more adults is in recovery for Substance Abuse. Referrals may come from DCF Investigations, but may also come from schools, other community agencies, law enforcement, court personnel or from a family who is seeking help on their own. This funding request will accommodate a minimum of 126 families with an average of 2.4 children and 1.7 adults per Parent Aide case. This will allow us to serve approximately 302 children and 214 adults who are at-risk for abuse and neglect and who, without services, are vulnerable to further DCF involvement and potential loss of custody of their children.

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

There are two primary benefits: A DCF review of Duval County Parent Aide cases from 2008-2017 showed 98.6% of the parents completing Parent Aide had no further incident of confirmed abuse or neglect within 6 months of case closure and 96.8% had no DCF incident within 12 months. It should be noted that approximately 66% of the referrals in the data reviewed were referred by DCF contracted providers for families deemed 'unsafe' by DCF and in need of services. The primary benefit of such outcomes is fewer children potentially being removed from their home and placed in foster care. Average cost of foster care is estimated to be anywhere from \$40,000 to \$80,000 annually depending on the needs of the child, while Parent Aide cost per child is less than \$1,200 per year which is the second major benefit of this program, a major reduction in costs for the taxpayers of Florida.

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?

If we fail to meet the requirements of the DCF contract, we will discuss return of the funds.



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12. **The owners of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.**

N/A

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.

14. **Recipient Contact Information**

- a. Organization
- b. Municipality and County
- c. Organization Type
- For-profit Entity
 - Non-Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non-Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (please specify)
- d. First Name Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number Ext.