



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1807

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

4. **Project/Program Description**

We seek to expand our 14 years of expertise by establishing a statewide call center specifically for youth aging out and preparing to age of foster care and transitioning into self-sufficiency. They will have a single number to call that speaks to their specific needs so that they can achieve and maintain self-sufficiency as adults, thereby becoming productive members of the community. While most of the youth we serve are from M-DC, we get a tremendous number of calls from youth throughout the state needing support services. Youth who complete our program move to other parts of the state and continue to need resource support. While there are call centers for abuse, disaster response, and other basic human needs, these youth become one of the largest homeless, unrecognized populations because they do not know where to turn to tap into resources. There is an expertise that is needed to understand the particular needs that will support their youth to adult journeys.

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: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="250,000"/>
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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: 80%;" type="text" value="250000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
Matching Funds		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	250,000	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: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>

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		<input type="text"/>
Other Salary and Benefits		<input type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Phone lines, phones space rental, desk tops, laptops, USB headsets, data handler, call recording software, Voice over Internet Protocol, resource guides, manuals, trainings, office equipment, office supplies, marketing materials.	250,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input type="text"/>
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		<input type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		<input type="text"/>
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input type="text"/>
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		<input type="text"/>
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000



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11. Program Performance

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

The goal will be to make sure that youth exiting foster care and homelessness are plugged into the right resources at the right time and in the right place. The goal that will be achieved is that youth exiting foster care and homelessness will have a single number to call that speaks to their specific needs so that they can achieve and maintain self-sufficiency as adults, thereby becoming productive members of the community.

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

The call center would be available 7 days a week. Youth who call in will talk to a live person who will gather as many identifiers as needed, including the specific city/county of residence and the issue being presented. The call center staff will not provide any direct service, only a referral and contact information for the local community resource that can address the need. The staff will enter the information into a created data base that can then match the need with specific resources in the city/county that can address the issue. Examples include housing, employment, school, food and healthcare.

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

There will be a statewide database of resources available that address the very particular needs of youth who have lived a lifetime of challenges through no fault of their own. Youth who call this help center will not be guided to general resources in a system that is difficult to manage, but to resources that have been researched and viable for addressing their needs. The goal is that by being able to access very tailored resources, youth exiting foster care and homelessness will be in a better position to receive needed services without expending tax dollars unnecessarily on supporting non-productive young adults. This call center could help to improve economic stability as youth work towards self-sufficiency by pointing them in the right direction for critical life skills services: housing, employment, financial literacy, self-care and acts of daily living.

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

The targeted population is youth who have exited or who are preparing to exit the foster care system in Florida or who exited elsewhere and are moving to Florida. These would be juveniles and young adults who lived without home and family stability and supportive adults. They are more vulnerable to homelessness, incarceration, mental and physical illness, early child-bearing, and more. About 28,000 youth age out of foster care in the U.S. each year, with over 1,000 in Florida. This call center would be available to provide supportive services to all youth who have aged out and those age 17 who are trying to determine what is next in their lives as they prepare for self-sufficiency. It would not duplicate any access lines currently in place, nor would it duplicate or replace efforts by case workers. After 14 years, we know that this would give them an assistance mechanism tailored to their specific needs to make sure that they get the right services in the right place at the right time.

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

This is a very specific and overlooked population of youth that could get services quickly and accurately. We would be able to track utilization of resources and follow-up with the youths' success. Communities will be able to track the areas of greatest need when looking to fund services. By having a one-stop call center for former foster youth, communities could realign existing resources as needed to match the availability of transitional services to the populations needed them. Outcomes can be measured by recording the number, names and location of referrals made to resources that address critical areas of education, employment, financial literacy, self-care and acts of daily living. By accessing tailored resources, youth will be in a better position to receive needed services without expending tax dollars unnecessarily on supporting non-productive young adults. Communities could realign existing resources as needed to match the availability of transitional services.

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?

The standard contract penalties are adequate.



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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.