



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2533

1. **Project Title** HANDY - Scholars Program - Broward2. **Senate Sponsor** Perry Thurston3. **Date of Request** 01/16/20204. **Project/Program Description**

HANDY (Helping Abused, Neglected, Disadvantaged Youth) is an award-winning 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has met the needs of more than 50,000 children in foster and relative/nonrelative care associated with the child dependency system. Requested state funding will enhance HANDY's successful Scholars Program, providing ongoing academic services, post-secondary education linkage, scholarships, and housing for at-risk youth in post-secondary education and training throughout the state. 25% of youth surveyed in the 2018 Florida National Youth in Transition Database Survey were not enrolled in a high school or GED program, vocational institution, or college, citing financial, academic, child care, transportation, and housing barriers. Last year, 41% of youth ages 18-22 reported having to couch surf to avoid homelessness and 26% spent anywhere from 1 night to the entire year living in homelessness. 24% reported that they cannot afford living expenses after paying rent.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of EducationState Agency contacted? ☐ Yes ☒ No6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	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)	250000	100.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	00	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		
2017-18	00	150,000	2198A	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		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Other Salary and Benefits		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	To effectively implement expansion of this program, 2.0 FTEs are needed: 1. 1.5 FTE Scholarship and Education Coordinators - salary (@ \$38,000 each * 1.5) + benefits and taxes (\$11,400) = \$68,400 2. 0.5 Housing Coordinator - salary \$20,000 + benefits and taxes (\$4,000) = \$24,000	92,400
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	1. Book scholarships, stipends, scholars dorm/apartment, start-up shopping, emergency needs, vocational ed fees, tech stipend, and care packages for over 65 at-risk youth 2. Staff travel to transport scholars to college and conduct visits to monitor progress (local and statewide)	157,600
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		<input style="width: 100%;" 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?

HANDY's Scholars Program enables youth to stay in school, understand their educational and employment options, and to learn to make positive life choices. The goal to be achieved by the funds is to provide at-risk youth with the emotional, financial, and academic support to successfully complete a post-secondary credential. Ultimately, this project will increase their self-sustainability and future earning potential, helping them become responsible, productive, independent adult taxpayers as well as mentors and leaders within their community.

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

The program provides youth post-secondary education financial and personal support, which includes: Education case management throughout youth's post-secondary education; assessment of eligibility and linkage to tuition exemptions; tuition to attend technical schools/certificate programs; scholarships for books/supplies/living stipends; assistance in completing all applications; emergency assistance for food, rent, utilities, clothing, and healthcare; and stable housing during post-secondary career.

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

With preparation being the key factor, a comprehensive Educational LIFE Plan (ELP) is completed with each youth, which helps the student identify/meet all necessary educational goals set by his or her individual school. The High School ELP addresses immediate educational needs, testing information, graduation audit explanation, and an educational plan for the year that the youth will need to complete in order to stay on track to graduate from high school. The College ELP is to assist the youth with registration and understanding the youth's degree audit. Through partnership with FLITE (Fort Lauderdale Independence Training and Education) Center, housing will also be provided for youth entering post-secondary education in areas that suit the youth's life and needs.

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

HANDY's scholars are from households with incomes at or below 100% of federal poverty level and the scholars represent a demographic cross-section of economically disadvantaged, abused, neglected, or abandoned inner-city youth, ages 17-23. They may be adjudicated dependent youth or youth in non-adjudicated relative or non-relative care. The majority of these youth are living with relative/non-relative caregivers who do not receive the support and services available to youth in foster care or foster care youth who may not qualify for extended foster care (EFC) or post-secondary education support services (PESS). HANDY scholars are 86% African American/Caribbean, 10% Caucasian, 3% Hispanic, and 1% Other. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of children currently served by HANDY are in foster care and 72% are children living with relative/non relative caregivers.

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

The expected outcomes of the project include:

- * 85% of youth will remain in school and be promoted to the next grade.
- * 85% of youth will decrease risky behavior and avoid law violations.
- * 100% of youth will not use alcohol or drugs.
- * 95% of youth will graduate high school and 100% of those graduates will enroll in post-secondary education.
- * 68% of youth will complete post-secondary education (the national completion rate for similar populations is 3%).

Academic records, background checks, pay stubs/employment verification, & self-assessments are collected to measure outcomes and validate data.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables or performance measures will result in a reduction or total loss of funding.



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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.