



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2038

**1. Project Title**

**2. Senate Sponsor**

**3. Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Community Health Centers of Pinellas (DBA: Evara Health) proposes a capital project that will allow for an expansion of professional and employment opportunities and expand healthcare services to the vulnerable populations and for residents of Pinellas County for years to come. The project is an addition of the two-story 20,000 SF medical/educational facility at the Evara's Highpoint Medical Complex and renovation of existing 5,000 SF. The property borders the Opportunity Zone and located within Primary Care HPSA and Medically Underserved Population area. Once complete, the new building will host the clinical space and new medical education facility outfitted for training of future doctors, ancillary dental and medical staff. The center will be offering a wide scope of affordable medical services for the residents the community. At full operational capacity, the center will be serving over 5,280 residents for 11,844 plus visits on annual basis.

**5. State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	7%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	1,000,000	15%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	3,197,200	49%
Other	1,878,300	29%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>6,575,500</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

**9. Is future funding likely to be requested?**

**a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

**b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**



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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Community Health Centers of Pinellas (DBA: Evara Health) received \$19.1M of federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic during the last three years. The funds were used for the operational support during the pandemic. None of the government pandemic relief funding was addressing the capital needs of the organization with exception of the ability to utilize up to \$500K for alterations of the current health service sites. The assistance was provided on a one-time basis.

## Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
  Design
  Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

13. 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Project includes modifying 5,000 SF of existing building, including redesign of the interior floor plan, and building new 20,000 SF building at the same property. Construction/renovation activities will include architectural and engineering, site work including additional parking lot, mechanical, masonry, electrical, permitting and project inspection. The facilities will meet all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and local building codes.	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

Evava Health proposes to establish a new health care professional training facility and primary care medical center at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida. The new building will become a medical education facility outfitted for training of future doctors, ancillary dental and medical staff. A training area will support the Evava Health Institute that will upskill Evava staff and those in the surrounding communities. The Institute will provide the opportunity for members of the community to obtain a well-paid profession that is in high demand in the medical field and for the medical institutions throughout the Pinellas County to gain a new reliable source of the qualified workforce. This healthcare institute will create economic mobility for the region and strengthen Evava's workforce. In addition, it is estimated that a minimum of 5,280 patients will be provided 11,488 visits in the newly constructed space at full operational capacity.

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

The project plan calls for modernization/renovation of 5,000 SF on the first floor of the existing Highpoint Health Center, and construction of a new two-story 20,000 SF building adjacent to the existing building. The proposed project changes will increase the size of the Evava Health Highpoint medical/education complex from 39,118 to 59,118 SF.

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

Once complete, the first floor of the existing building will allow for expansion of behavioral and mental health services, physical therapy, sports medicine, optometry, and podiatry services. The new building will host an education facility outfitted for training of future doctors, ancillary dental/medical staff and medical clinic. A training area will support the Evava Family Practice Residency Program and Evava Health Institute that will upskill Evava staff and those in the surrounding communities.

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

A training area will support the Evava Health Institute that will upskill Evava staff and those in the surrounding communities. The Institute will provide the opportunity for members of the community to obtain a well-paid profession that is in high demand in the medical field and for the medical institutions throughout the Pinellas County to gain a new reliable source of the qualified workforce. It is estimated that a minimum of 5,280 patients will be provided 11,488 visits due to the addition of the newly constructed space during the first full year of operations, doubling the number of patients and visits at this center compared to 2021.

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

The project will result in the employment of 18 FTE quality jobs (create 15 new FTEs and retain 3 FTEs), including mental/behavioral health providers, medical assistants, patient support specialists, and optometry, physical therapy, training, and education personnel. Evava Health Institute that will professionally train 20 plus community residents for jobs as medical, dental or pharmacy assistant. Evava Residency program will graduate for new physicians annually. It is estimated that a minimum of 5,280 patients will be provided 11,488 visits due to the addition of the newly constructed space during the first full year of operations, doubling the number of patients and visits at this center compared to 2021.

##### 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 the contract?

Returning of the funds.

#### 15. Requester Contact Information



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

#### 16. 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

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

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