



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1494

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

K9s For Warriors works to end veteran suicide and return warriors to a life of dignity and independence. This funding will be used to provide wrap around services, support, and training for active Florida Warriors; a trained service dog, housing, meals, equipment, veterinary care, and on-site training to an additional new Warriors; and wrap around services, support, and training for the spouses, children, or other family and friends who are the direct support-givers.

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	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	750,000	576A	No

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.

The lack of federal funding for PTSD Service Dogs creates a necessity for funding at the state level.

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



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

K9s For Warriors received federal funding related to the COVID-19 pandemic in the amount of \$901,624.82 on May 11, 2020. These funds were used for salary expenses.

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
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries and benefits for Warrior Operations Staff; Caregiver Support Staff; K9 Training Staff, K9 Care Taking Staff, and Veterinary Staff.	600,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Service Dogs: acquisition, vet. care, canine health insurance, transportation, food & supplies, off-site training; Warrior Training Program: trainers' gear, screening/processing, meals, warriors' gear, supplies, transportation, office and facilities; Caregiver Training Program: equip., facilities, utilities, office supplies, outreach materials	400,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

14. Program Performance

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



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

As a response to the stress veterans experience from PTSD, TB, or MST, K9s provides peer-to-peer support, suicide intervention, crisis intervention, family and spousal support, and assistance with any other issues that a veteran may need assistance with to maintain stability in their life. Finally K9s is developing a training and support program to support the needs of the Warriors' caregivers.

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

We provide direct peer support, suicide intervention, crisis intervention, and family/spousal support. Additionally, we train and pair veterans with an ADI-certified service dog. Finally, Caregivers of the Warriors will receive dedicated staff support and training on focused on their needs as spouses facing a unique set of experiences and how to support their veterans in seeking help.

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

Post-9/11 veterans diagnosed with PTSD, TBI, and/or MST and their caregivers. Over 200 Florida veterans are expected to be served.

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

Higher morning Cortisol output, indicative of healthier stress levels; reduced PTSD symptoms; better physiological well-being. Standardized PTSD assessments such as the PCL-5 will be used.

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?

Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

15. Requester Contact Information

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



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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