



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1459

1. **Project Title** Aspire Health Partners /Centerstone - Military Veterans and National Guard Mental Health Services

2. **Senate Sponsor** Danny Burgess

3. **Date of Request** 11/15/2023

**4. Project/Program Description**

Mental Health Services at the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinics at Aspire Health Partners and Centerstone will continue to provide critical expansion of behavioral health services for National Guard, veterans and their families regardless of role, time in service or discharge status. Too often, National Guard, veterans and military family members live life coping with trauma and mental health issues related to a life of military service. Aspire and Centerstone will continue to provide evidence-based, culturally competent, person-centered therapy for mental health issues including depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, adjustment issues, anger, grief and loss, family issues, transition challenges, relationship problems, and children’s behavioral concerns. Services will include assessment, case management, outpatient psychiatric, and telehealth treatment. Aspire and Centerstone will target National Guard, post 9/11 veterans, and their family members of all ages.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Children and Families

**State Agency contacted?** Yes

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,500,000	33%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	750,000	17%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	2,285,135	50%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>4,535,135</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	1,000,000	378	No

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

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.** 1,500,000

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1459

Insurance reimbursement helps to offset a portion of the total expenses. The Cohen Veterans Network currently provides private funding towards this effort. Additional funding has been sought, and received, through federal grant funding.

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.

### 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   
  N/A

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	Includes prorated amount of Agency Exec. staff, HR, Accounting, Quality Mgmt., Payroll, etc. and related fringe benefits.	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Program Director, Licensed/Credentialed Therapists, Fellows, Case Managers, Support Staff, Outreach Staff, Communication Manager.	1,350,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Computers, secure internet connections, product licenses, staff travel, supplies, transportation.	55,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Training and evidence-based protocol.	20,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,500,000</b>



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1459

#### 14. Program Performance

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

Cohen Military Family Clinics at Aspire Health Partners and Centerstone will provide critical ongoing expansion of behavioral health services for National Guard, veterans and military family members across the state. This population struggles with the side-effects of a life of service to our country; moves, deployments, relationship stressors, trauma, other mental health issues. Aspire and Centerstone provide evidence-based, culturally competent, person-centered therapy for multiple mental health concerns.

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

Veterans will be provided assessment, case management, outpatient, and telehealth treatment services as described in Ch. 65D-30 and in accordance with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities (CARF) accrediting standards.

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

National Guard, veterans and families will be provided services to include initial assessment, suicide screening and intervention (as appropriate), case management (to provide wrap-around community resources and referrals), individual, couples, family and/or group outpatient therapy both in-person and via televideo as well and community engagement activities to promote social engagement activities

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

National Guardsmen, veterans, and military family members. We expect to serve between 501- 1000 individuals.

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

We will improve the mental health of those served by the reduction of depressive and anxiety symptoms by 25%, improved quality of life by 10%, reduction in suicidal ideation by 20%. Outcome measures will be collected for each client served at initial assessment and monthly throughout each client's episode of treatment. Outcome measures include: PHQ-9 (for Depression), GAD-7 (for Anxiety), C-SSRS (for suicide risk), and QLES (quality of life rating scale) as well as post-discharge administration of the QLES at 3, 6 and 12 month intervals.

**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?**

Suggested penalties will be those outlined in the executed contract. We do not anticipate this to be an issue as we fully expect to meet contract performance measures.

#### 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**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1459

- 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**