



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2683

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Find, Feed and Restore addresses two primary areas that need immediate attention in our county, including food insecurity and affordable housing. At 14310 S. Bay Lake Rd., Groveland, FL, we will build three 45 X 105 feet aquaponic farms. Each farm will produce 14 tons of vegetables each year. We will donate 4,000 tons of fresh vegetables to the local food banks yearly, and all profits from remaining vegetables will go toward building affordable housing on our Mascotte and/or Leesburg properties.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	550,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>550,000</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)	550,000	55%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	75,000	8%
Other	373,000	37%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>998,000</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.

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.

### 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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

5/1/2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/1/2024

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.

Find, Feed and Restore owns the land and will have ownership of the aquaponic farm equipment that will be purchased from and setup by Backyard Farms Express.

#### 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>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Electrical, plumbing and infrastructure for the 3 aquaponic gardens, 3 pole barns, and all aquaponic equipment.	550,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>550,000</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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



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According to the CHNA (Community Health Needs Assessment), food insecurity has led to the inability of low-income households to afford fresh vegetables which has led to the purchase of processed foods. This has a direct impact on our mortality rate as the State of Florida has a 146.5 mortality rate from heart disease and Lake County is 161.3, which makes us higher than Orange and Seminole Counties. We will donate 4,000 tons each year to local food banks and the profits from the sale of the remaining produce will go towards developing affordable housing on other properties that we own.

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

Development of three, 45x105 feet aquaponic farms including electric, plumbing, pole barns, fish, and temperature-controlled container units to store the fresh vegetables. The services will include 4,000 tons for fresh vegetables being donated to the local good banks, every year.

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

Direct services include free vegetables to the local food banks in Lake County (4,000 tons per year) and the additional 34 tons of vegetables that are sold each year will generate a profit that will go directly towards building additional affordable housing on properties we own in Mascotte and Leesburg.

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

Economically disadvantaged people, homeless, persons in poor physical health and the elderly.

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

Four thousand pounds of vegetables donated each year to the local food banks in Lake County which will give low income families access to healthy foods. This has a direct impact on a growing health inequity since low-income families cannot afford the cost of high nutrient and fresh foods. We will measure it by the amount of vegetables given to food banks each year.

**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?**

Full return of all funds.

**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**