



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1363

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Individuals reporting opioid use are significantly more likely to be involved with the criminal justice system compared to people with no opioid use, and the level of justice involvement increases with the level of opioid use (SAMHSA). Justice-involved individuals are more likely to die of an opioid overdose compared to the general population and, drug overdose is among the leading causes of death for individuals re-entering the community, with a majority of these overdoses involving opioids. It has been estimated that 77 percent of formerly incarcerated individuals with an OUD relapse to opioid use within three months of release even after participating in a counseling program while incarcerated. STEPS proposes to operate a comprehensive Mobile Outreach program that will provide immediate access to culturally competent staff, primary health care, HIV/STI testing and medications, substance use and mental health counseling, case management and medication assisted treatment (MAT).

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	200,000

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)	200,000	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 2024-2025	200,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

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.

In December 2021, \$73,930.05 was received from HRSA to provide assistance with payroll for employees in criminal justice outpatient programs as a result of delayed referrals due to court closings and contracted Jail programs closing during COVID-19.

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
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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds requested will purchase a 28ft. mobile unit with three exam rooms.	200,000
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)		200,000

14. Program Performance

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



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The specific purpose and goal of MOVE will be to serve as a behavioral health and primary care entry site and ultimately bridge citizens to office-based settings for ongoing care and increasing access to addiction services for people at highest risk with an Opiate Use Disorder (OUD) of near-term death. The MOVE will expand evidenced based treatment(s) to underserved populations who otherwise have no access to life saving care. The MOVE project will have more success at establishing trust and rapport with community members because staff will include those perceived as peers who are credible, and positive role models to active drug users.

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

Activities will be committed to working within the community in target locations that are not in proximity to brick-and-mortar treatment programs. We know that criminal justice programs serve a large population that does not qualify for Medicaid or private health insurance therefore services of our traditional treatment programming will be expanded to the community to include immediate access to primary healthcare, substance use and mental health counseling, HIV/STI testing and treatment(s), case management and access to medication assisted treatment. All activities will be provided through regular site scheduling within the community and walk-ins will be accepted rather than requiring appointments.

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

The project will serve as an entry point to care for indigent and under-insured citizens of Central Florida. Taking a holistic approach MOVE will reduce the stigma and barriers faced by those in the criminal justice system who are often unable to access direct services that includes primary healthcare, HIV/STI testing and treatment, substance use and mental health counseling, case management and access to medication assisted treatment due to the lack of availability of community based providers who have capacity to serve or who are unwilling to serve people who are under criminal justice oversight.

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

Indigent and under-insured Central Florida residents involved with or at risk of criminal justice involvement who are in need of primary healthcare, substance use, HIV/STI testing and treatment and mental health counseling, case management and access to medication assisted treatment. Given that as of 10/27/2023 there are approximately 15,600 central Florida residents on community supervision STEPS anticipates easily serving 1500 citizens per year.

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

MOVE will take a client centered approach to providing access to quality safe and efficient care that through this easily accessible entry point will increase access to and retention in treatment, reduced use of the justice system by individuals with opioid use disorders and ensure continuity of care once individuals are no longer under criminal justice oversight. The MOVE services and supports being provided are critical to addressing recidivism risk factors, such as lack of stable housing, employment, meaningful daily activities, and supportive peers, as individuals with OUD return to the community.

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 include return of funds if the MOVE unit is not operational within sixty (60) days of funding being made available.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name	Cheryl	Last Name	Bello
b. Organization	Specialized Treatment Education and Prevention Services, Inc. (STEPS)		
c. E-mail Address	Cheryl.Bello@flsteps.org		
d. Phone Number	(407)879-1201	Ext.	

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization	Specialized Treatment Education and Prevention Services, Inc. (STEPS)
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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