



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2347

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Making An Impact (MAI) would empower over 1000 residents with an easy-to-use “guidance system” for essential services. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, MAI offers a top-rated printed and online web app navigational tool, recognized as a one-stop resource. The Basic Needs Resource Guide streamlines identifying resources for individuals, children, and families, reaching those often missed by other methods. Their Community Connections Resource Guide lists 300+ agencies in Sarasota and Manatee counties, covering healthcare, food assistance, housing, employment, and more. With 5000+ printed guides in circulation, MAI is a trusted resource, regularly updating the online version and annually releasing printed guides. The project expands distribution, enhances online access, and includes awareness campaigns and events, ensuring residents easily connect with local programs and services.

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	44,250
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>44,250</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)	44,250	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>44,250</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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Yes

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

In September 2020, Making An Impact received a CARES Act Grant for \$4,399.25 to help residents impacted by COVID-19 find local resources to meet their basic needs using copies of Making An Impact's printed Community Connections Resource Guide.

## 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	A portion of the grant budget, specifically 5%, is earmarked to cover the salary, benefits, and other associated costs of the individual leading the project. This allocation recognizes the importance of leadership in successfully executing the project and ensures that the project lead has the necessary resources and support. It covers their time, expertise, and efforts devoted to overseeing and managing the project from initiation to completion.	2,213
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The allocation of 0.5% of total project costs aim to provide the necessary resources and flexibility for the smooth functioning of the project. They contribute to the initiative's overall success by facilitating efficient operations, supporting the project team, and addressing unforeseen challenges.	250
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	This encompasses the compensation for project managers, coordinators, researchers, and other team members. Additionally, costs may cover recruitment, training, and development to ensure the staff is adequately prepared for their roles. Benefits such as health insurance, retirement contributions, and other employee perks contribute to the overall personnel costs. Proper budgeting for staff-related expenses is crucial to ensure a capable and motivated team.	7,000



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Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds needed for project-related supplies and costs, including expenses for research and updating, translation, layout, printing, distribution of 1500+ printed and technology support for online versions of resource guides. Also covers costs related to community outreach initiatives and awareness campaigns. Bilingual Guides, QR code cards and 11 x 17 signs will be distributed to residents, nonprofits, law enforcement, 1st responders, and faith-based institutions.	32,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funds 5% of project cost will be used to conduct surveys and interviews as an integral component of grant operational costs and aimed at measuring the impact of a project. Surveys involve systematically collecting data from a targeted group through structured questionnaires, while interviews entail engaging individuals in direct, often more in-depth, conversations. Both methods serve the following key purposes: data validation, identification of challenges and success, tailoring interventions.	2,287
<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>44,250</b>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

Our goal at Making An Impact is to revolutionize community support by implementing an accessible 'guidance system' that streamlines the process of connecting individuals, children, and families with vital programs and services. With your support, we aim to enhance and expand our Guide, ensuring that it becomes an indispensable tool for empowering residents and the dedicated organizations assisting them in effectively and efficiently meeting basic needs.

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

The multifaceted initiative to provide an unparalleled resource for basic need services in Manatee and Sarasota counties involves several strategic steps:

- Research and Database Enhancement:
- Guide Content Revision and Printing:
- Distribution Campaign:
- Online Guide and ARC-GIS Maps Updates:
- Project Management:
- Translation Services:
- Technology Updates:
- Community Outreach Programs:

By strategically allocating grant funds to these targeted activities, the objective is to maintain and elevate the Guide's status as a comprehensive, trusted resource for meeting basic needs in the community. This approach fosters greater inclusivity and maximizes the positive impact on the community at large.

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



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The grant project targets critical needs in Manatee and Sarasota counties, prioritizing direct services via our Community Resource Guide. Allocated funds will support:

#### Comprehensive Resource Guides:

Distribute updated guides covering 300+ organizations in 17 categories. Residents gain vital information on services like abuse support, addiction programs, childcare, disability assistance, education, employment, financial aid, food pantries, and veteran services.

#### QR Code Wallet Cards:

Provide residents with QR code wallet cards for mobile access to the Resource Guide. This innovative solution allows instant smartphone navigation, ensuring easy access to information on available services.

#### Signage for Mobile Device Access:

Install visible signage in key locations, guiding residents on using mobile devices to access the Resource Guide. Strategically placed, it maximizes visibility and encourages utilization among those seeking assistance.

#### Assistance Navigation Services: person

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

The primary focus of this project is to serve and benefit a minimum of 1000 residents within Manatee and Sarasota counties. The target population encompasses individuals, children, and families actively seeking or in need of basic services. This inclusive demographic includes but is not limited to individuals facing heightened vulnerabilities, such as the elderly, those with poor mental or physical health, the unemployed, economically disadvantaged individuals, homeless persons/families, those with developmental or physical disabilities, victims of crime, and other at-risk populations.

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

The grant project's ultimate goal is empowering residents, positively impacting physical and mental health, learning outcomes, economic self-sufficiency, advocacy skills, and reducing substance abuse. To measure impact:

#### Online Engagement Metrics:

Monitor online searches on our platform. Increased engagement indicates heightened awareness and resource utilization.

#### Agency Feedback and Testimonials:

Collect qualitative feedback from agencies using the guide. Testimonials provide insights into the guide's efficacy in connecting residents with essential services.

#### Verbal Feedback Channels:

Gather real-time verbal feedback from residents using the guide. Direct interaction offers insights into their experiences and tangible benefits.

#### Survey Responses:

Administer surveys to residents and agencies for quantitative data on project impact. Analyzing responses assesses perceived improvements in health, learning, self-sufficiency, and substance abuse reduction.

#### **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?**

It's essential for both the contracting agency and the nonprofit to clearly define expectations, deliverables, and performance measures in the grant agreement to avoid misunderstandings. Additionally, the consequences of failing to meet these requirements should be explicitly stated to ensure accountability and transparency in the grant-funded relationship.

However, some common penalties or consequences for failing to meet grant or project requirements may include:

1. Performance Improvement Plan
2. Financial Penalties
3. Termination of Funding
4. Ineligibility for Funding



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#### 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
- 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