



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2150

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

This program seeks to assist the SPMI and/or co-occurring population throughout the State of Florida with low income housing that provides case management and other supportive services enabling the individual to maintain independent community living in a stable and assisted manner. Approximately 90% of our residents have an income of \$0.00 to \$9,252 per year. Due to limited resources, the person we serve cannot afford housing on the open market. In Sarasota County, the HUD fair market rent for an efficiency is \$850 per month or \$10,200 per year. This does not include utilities, food, incidentals or supportive services. Housing without supportive services does not reduce recidivism. By making our housing affordable and incorporating our wrap around services, the clients are able to remain stable while living independently. Our services incorporated into our housing first model have consistently delivered a significant reduction in acute care cost exceeding 80%.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**  No  Yes

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

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 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,500,000	36%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	1,131,000	28%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	732,284	18%
Local	428,978	11%
Other	287,000	7%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>4,079,262</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**  No  Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	1,500,000	372	No

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**  No  Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

There are no other funding sources which can be utilized 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.

CASL received \$442,500 for pandemic relief. The funds were used to hire additional staff as we opened Arbor Village which increased our capacity by 88 additional beds along with providing additional support in our homes. During the pandemic, CASL increased its support staff by 20%. Additionally, CASL purchased 500 COVID testing kits and equipment for staff to work with clients in their homes to communicate with the doctors/therapist via Telemedicine.

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Program director who is responsible for information management (including electronic health record data), program/contract compliance (QI/QA), program audits/monitoring and act as security and privacy officer. Oversees data entry of case management/supportive housing and outreach team.	100,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Part-time accountant for processing payroll, financial reports, financial audit compliance and compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Employee benefits to include health and disability insurance.	74,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Case Management salaries and other cost for employment such as worker's compensation, health insurance, payroll taxes, state unemployment taxes.	1,219,500



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Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Each Case Manager is provided with an office, cell phone, computer and mini van or 4-door car. The vehicles are used for transporting to appointments, social outings, food shopping, etc... The funds will be used for gas, vehicle maintenance, cell phone usage, office space, office supplies, computer with IT support and Electronic Health Record System.	106,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<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>

#### 14. Program Performance

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

Over half of the people served by CASL are homeless prior to admission in addition to their mental illness or co-occurring disorders. From CASL's experience, as well as supported by numerous studies, when supportive housing services are incorporated into their housing, it dramatically reduces the burden on the acute care system. The model that we have developed has proven to dramatically reduce recidivism to the emergency rooms, forensic hospitals, jails and Crisis Stabilization Units. Over the past several years, the recidivism rate of our residents is at our below 5% annually. A study in Lee County showed that persons with severe and persistent mental illness or co-occurring disorders who did not have housing coupled with the supportive service consumed, on average \$54,625/year. Residents of CASL's program consumed, on average, \$6,000/year. Our goal is to keep people in their respective communities and out of the acute care and/or forensic system.

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

The case managers in collaboration with each resident, develops an Individual Service Plan (ISP) based on personal goals and three distinct program objectives; 1) Obtain and remain in permanent housing; 2) Achieve self-determination; 3) Increase life skills, income and overall quality of life. Our organization uses the Functional Assessment Rating Scale (FARS) to establish a benchmark of the resident's initial functional ability. The FARS enables the case manger to encourage further independence through metered goals that are primarily driven by the resident. We provide comfortable residential settings in the community which offer security and stabilization, enhancing the confidence and safety felt by our residents. Individualized service plans are utilized to set short and long term goals which are essential to maintaining stability and recovery. Our residents have a case manager who advocate and assist in resolving challenges, barriers, obstacles, and assure goals are met.

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

Five services are provided. Housing, outreach, case management, peer support, and the supportive services essential to sustain persons with SPMI in community-based housing. Our residents have a case manager and peer support who advocate and assist in resolving challenges, barriers, obstacles and assure goals are met. This assistance enables our residents to access community resources essential to resiliency, self-determination and independence. They provide other types of assistance by working with our clients to develop literacy skills, skills to search for job/volunteer opportunities, budgeting, healthcare access, transportation, community services, crisis intervention, accessing clothing resources, computers skills, nutrition, social skills, hygiene management, security management, safety management and housekeeping skills.

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

Typically, CASL targets the Severe and Persistently Mentally Ill (SPMI) or Adults with Mental Health Problems (AMHP) as defined by DCF Pamphlet 155-2. Over 50% not only have a mental health diagnosis, but a substance abuse diagnosis as well, co-occurring. In addition to this population, CASL assist local forensic diversion programs. This includes but not limited to individuals from state forensic hospitals and local goals through Comprehensive Treatment Court (CTC), as well as, each of the local Florida Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) teams in each County we serve. Most of these clients typically have a mental Health Diagnosis and (ICD10) code between F20-39 and need to receive services for their current MH Problem for 12 months or more. CASL expects to serve between 480 to 550 people.

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



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Services provided by CASL, assist the State in the management of a system of care for persons with mental illness most of whom were homeless, chronically homeless, previously incarcerated due to a disability and extremely low or no income. This care is designed to reduce the occurrence, severity, duration and disabling aspects of mental and behavioral disorders. CASL helps individuals to progress towards recovery and self-fulfillment/actualization through the provision of support services and housing. CASL and its assisted living facility (ALF), Renaissance Manor, seek to assist each individual with the services best suited to each client's individual progress. The outcomes will be measured by individuals served and remaining in an independent living situation. Additionally, CASL will be helping the State to address the affordable housing crisis by bringing on line 288 new housing units in partnership with Blue Sky Communities in 2023.

**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?**

The managing entity, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network (CFBHN), requires for services and people served to be unloaded/maintained in the Electronic Records Systems (CHDS). CFBHN requires for this information to be uploaded to their system to ensure the amount of services provided equals or exceeds the invoiced amount ensuring that billing matches data. If there is not enough data uploaded into their system to indicated services provided per contract requirements, CFHBN will reduce the payment to the provider. CASL has consistently exceed the outcomes and contract requirements with the 100% reporting compliance. For the past three years, CASL has expanded capacity by 30% per year with a 100-bed expansion which will be opened in March 2020. In Oct. 2021, CASL and it's partner Blue Sky Communities opened a 95 unit - 118 bed expansion in Ft. Myers. In January of 2023, CASL/Blue Sky will be bringing on line an additional 288 units in Orange, Polk, and Charlotte Counties.

**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**



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#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number