



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2488

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Best Buddies Jobs program represents one of our organization's four key mission pillars, Integrated Employment. This program secures jobs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), allowing them to earn an income. The Best Buddies Jobs program places focus beyond the typical jobs in which a person with IDD might be placed. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents. In FY24, the Best Buddies Jobs Project will support 50 new job placements, recruit and develop 28 new employer partners across the state, and deliver 20 diversity, equity & inclusion trainings to new community partners. Expand to the Jacksonville market by engaging five employer partners with a commitment to hire. Plan Vocational Rehabilitation presentations for local Best Buddies offices. Transition 22 Best Buddies Friendship Program participants into the Jobs program.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	38%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	310,000	30%
Local	40,000	4%
Other	285,163	28%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	1,035,163	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?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

In lieu of state funding, Best Buddies would need to alter the project scope and use a combination of private dollars generated through fundraising, individual giving, and foundations.



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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.

Best Buddies in Florida received \$303,741.60 in federal assistance that covered operating costs as revenue declined due to the cancellation of in-person fundraisers during the pandemic.

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
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits	Oversight of the administrative and management needs of our state offices. Professional Services - to include website and database maintenance, state development, education and training, accounting, HR/Legal, IT, Executive - oversight of programming	32,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Employment Consultants in six area offices across the state; Deputy Directors of Jobs in two regions; State Director - calculated at 22.86% of salaries. To provide for the cost of the development, outreach, implementation, and direct monitoring of the program statewide.	320,120
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Equipment, Office Space/Utilities, Materials & Supplies, Telecommunication, mileage reimbursement for travel to support the jobs/work program.	47,880
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)		400,000



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14. Program Performance

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

This funding would sustain the Best Buddies Jobs program across the state of Florida and support expansion into the Jacksonville job market. To create change, our program will educate employers to include diverse hiring practices for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, educate families on post-secondary options through our transition program, and provide life-changing opportunities for the disability community through placement in integrated and competitive employment.

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

This project will support 50 new job placements for people with IDD, recruit and develop 28 new employer partners across the state, and deliver 20 diversity, equity & inclusion trainings to new community partners. Expand to the Jacksonville market by engaging five employer partners with a commitment to hire. Plan Vocational Rehabilitation presentations for local Best Buddies offices. Transition 22 Best Buddies Friendship Program participants into the Jobs program.

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

The direct services provided will be person-centered, individualized support to prepare participants for employment, placement, job coaching after placement, and follow along services to ensure long-term success.

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

The target population for the FY24 Best Buddies Job Project are individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities seeking employment. In FY24, Best Buddies anticipates serving 50 individuals with disabilities age 18 and up.

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

The FY24 Best Buddies Jobs Project will create more inclusive workplaces for employees with disabilities by engaging and educating new employer partners and placing adults with IDD in competitive, inclusive jobs. Best Buddies staff will utilize Set-Works, an internal case-management system, to track project activities and manage participant records. Project outcomes will be measured using Set-Works data reports, periodic progress reports, and our annual survey which is distributed to program participants, supervisors, and employer partners. The Best Buddies annual survey was developed and is analyzed by Michael Hardman, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and Chief Global Officer, Office for Global Engagement, President's Office, University of Utah.

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?

Financial consequences for each missed deliverable per quarter: \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q1, \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q2, \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q3, and \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q4.

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



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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