



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2439

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

4. Project/Program Description

The LJD Jewish Family & Community Services, Inc. (JFCS) will expand its capacity to provide outpatient mental health and substance abuse counseling, as well as psychiatric services, to uninsured and underinsured children, teens and adults in Duval County. Services will help at-risk individuals strengthen their level of functioning and improve their ability to cope with life challenges, building a stronger foundation for self-sufficiency. Funding will help subsidize sliding-fee scale counseling services to lower income individuals in the community who do not have Medicaid or adequate health insurance to cover behavioral health services. Funding will also help remove barriers to access, by providing resources such as bus passes, Lyft transportation to/from sessions and equipment/tablets for telehealth 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	450,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	450,000

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)	450,000	33%
Matching Funds		
Federal	350,953	25%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	587,264	42%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	1,388,217	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	300,000	378	No

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.

We do not have access to a specific source of funding to support the activities described in this request. Medicaid will pay for some services, but will not fund staff positions. Those who are caught in the gap (without financial resource, Medicaid or insurance) would go without access to affordable mental health and substance abuse services without this funding.



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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

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

JFCS received a PPP loan for \$1,636,000 to cover personnel expenses, rent and utilities and received \$75,000 in Phase 37/Emergency Food & Shelter Program and CARES Act Funds to provide rental and utility assistance to the community due to COVID-19. JFCS received \$9,850,000 (ending 10/15/21) from the Department of Treasury for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Lead by United Way of NE Florida, JFCS provided COVID-19 eviction-relief assistance to the community.

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	Administrative support for the program.	41,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Substance Abuse Therapist to provide outpatient counseling and assessment to dual-diagnosed clients. Additional therapist counseling hours to meet demand and provide oversight of program and additional psychiatric nursing staff hours to expand psychiatric care to clients. Total represents salaries, payroll taxes and benefits.	340,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds for direct client assistance to remove barriers to services, office supplies, cell phone and travel.	69,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0



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Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	450,000
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14. Program Performance

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

JFCS will have expanded capacity to provide outpatient mental health and substance abuse counseling, as well as psychiatric services, to lower-income uninsured and under-insured children, teens and adults in Duval County. Services will help at-risk individuals strengthen their level of functioning and improve their ability to cope with life challenges, building a stronger foundation for self sufficiency. Funds will ensure that JFCS can provide sliding-fee scale counseling services to the community and remove barriers to access to critical mental health, substance abuse and psychiatric services for at-risk individuals.

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

Licensed and license-eligible therapists will provide outpatient mental health counseling services to children, teens and adults. A Substance Abuse therapist will provide outpatient substance abuse services to teens and adults. Funding will help subsidize sliding fee scale services, provide additional program oversight, expand psychiatric nursing services (provided by a contract psychiatrist and staff ARNP and RN) and help remove barriers to access for uninsured and under-insured individuals.

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

Clients will receive a bio-psychosocial evaluation, treatment plan, counseling sessions and discharge planning. Sessions will typically be weekly, for up to 4 months. Clients may also receive psychiatric evaluation and medication management services. Additional support to access services may include bus passes, Lyft transportation to sessions, necessary equipment/tablets for tele-health sessions.

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

The target population is lower-income uninsured/under-insured children, teens and adults in need of outpatient mental health, outpatient substance abuse and psychiatric/medication management services. A growing population in Jacksonville is caught in the middle ...hard working, providing for their families, yet unable to afford counseling. Though lower income, they do not qualify for Medicaid or they lack adequate health insurance for behavioral health care. Caught "in the gap," they can't afford traditional counseling services. JFCS is one of a handful of local agencies offering sliding-fee scale counseling. We expect to serve approximately 330 clients with legislative funds.

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

Families are operating in crisis mode, and need accessible, timely, affordable mental health care to cope with the chronic stress and trauma of an unending pandemic, rising family tensions and economic uncertainty. Sliding fee scale counseling is imperative. Funding a Substance Abuse therapist with expertise in working with dual-diagnosed clients and helping families alleviate barriers to participating in counseling is equally critical. This will increase a client 's ability to actively engage in services and improve their wellbeing and functioning. We expect 80% of clients will reduce their disruptive symptoms as measured by discharge summaries and/or progress note review. We also expect that 80% of dual-diagnosis clients with co-existing mental health and substance abuse issues will reduce or eliminate their dependency on illegal substances upon exiting the program. We will enter assessment and service plan data into eCR (our EHR system), pulling evaluative reports regularly.

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?

Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address



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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