



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3546

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Happy Brew Vocational Program and Enrichment Venue meets a crucial community need for a universally-designed outdoor center where individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) can access work readiness training, occupational therapy, employment, and life-enriching activities. Happy Brew's vocational program and venue originated from a five-year study process out of Flagler College. Happy Brew's vocational programs are fully operational and serve as a hub for the IDD community. Funding for an outdoor venue will provide expanded capacity for work readiness and life enrichment opportunities for individuals with unique abilities, and serve as a place of inclusion for the community at large. Situated within a strategic 2-mile radius from downtown Jacksonville and three major interstate exits, the location ensures unmatched accessibility.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	50,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	450,000
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	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.

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



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

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.

Happy Brew Inc works with Southside Methodist who owns the facility adjacent to the land targeted for the outdoor venue and offered the building and land for free to connect with the community and help members with intellectual or developmental differences. Southside Methodist has a legally-binding contract outlining the terms of the lease including no charge for Happy Brew to develop an outdoor venue. Happy Brew is the sole beneficiary of the appropriations for the capital outlay and renovate

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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultants to provide best practice employment models, research and training while maintaining report project data.	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	The requested appropriations will complete Happy Brew's capital campaign to fund the final phase of the project - renovating an outdoor venue into a fully operational, ADA compliant, universally-designed space to aid in the vocational program at Happy Brew and serve as a hub for the IDD community. The construction includes the activity venue to provide more training and internship opportunities for adults with intellectual or developmental differences.	450,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000



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14. Program Performance

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

The specific purpose to be achieved by the funds requested is to deliver a new innovative service-delivery model for individuals with intellectual or developmental differences where we can expand our occupational therapy program and immerse individuals with IDD in community life via this outdoor center. Participants will gain on the job experiences and skills needed to obtain competitive employment while involving the community, allowing more to get involved thus providing more opportunities for adults with IDD to live fulfilled lives.

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

The project will use research-based, occupational therapy-driven practices to increase work readiness for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) through vocational training and paid employment. Additionally, a universally-designed outdoor venue will serve as a hub for community partnerships and proven effective approaches for life-enrichment, community inclusion, and caregiver networking to improve quality of life for those with IDD while preventing social isolation.

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

citizens will receive evidence-based vocational and self-advocacy training, work readiness, on-the-job support, life-enrichment activities, caregiver support, community inclusion events, and linkages to other disability service organizations.

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

Happy Brew's Vocational Program and Enrichment Venue will target individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, ages 16+, and their caregivers. It is anticipated that annually: a) 24 individuals with IDD will participate in the 12 week internship program, b) 15 individuals with IDD will receive competitive-wage employment and on-the-job-support, and c) 100 individuals with IDD will participate in community enrichment programs.

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

The expected benefit of the project is that individuals with IDD would achieve a greater quality of life by increasing a) self-sufficiency and independence through the vocational and employment services, and b) engagement in life-enrichment activities that reduce social isolation and promote positive mental health. Methodology for outcome measurements include: a) Pre and post tests for vocational training participants, b) job skills acquisition for employees, c) life-enrichment activity satisfaction, d) number of participants, e) number and types of community partnerships (disability service linkages/referrals, volunteer groups, etc.).

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?

Corrective action plans and/or financial consequences will be required for non-compliance, non-performance, unacceptable performance or failure to meet the minimum level of service or performance under the contract.

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