



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1136

1. Project Title Jewish Community Services of South Florida - Nutritional Equity for Seniors Keeping Kosher (NESKK)

2. Senate Sponsor Ileana Garcia

3. Date of Request 02/02/2023

4. Project/Program Description

The program seeks to enhance the ability for Jewish Community Services of South Florida to provide high-quality Kosher meals to senior clients. Requested funds will be applied to the differential cost of an enhanced Kosher menu with similar quality and variety to a non Kosher menu, the differential for holiday meals, produce boxes, and snacks to supplement meals to support seniors with religious dietary restrictions (Kosher or Halal). Funding will ensure seniors are not provided lower-quality food due to religious dietary restrictions and that they can age with dignity in their homes instead of turning to more costly institutional care.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Elder Affairs

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	600,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

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)	600,000	21%
Matching Funds		
Federal	850,893	32%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	182,069	7%
Local	237,708	9%
Other	821,706	31%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	2,692,376	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	0	400,000	398	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 600,000

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

Individual Donor Funding can be utilized for this purpose, as well as other granted funds from private foundations, and other entities. However, funding for this purpose is hard to secure and funders generally do not fund the costs of food differential.



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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.

CARES Act -\$105,843.53 - supportive services and counseling to seniors.
CARES Act - \$166,230.87 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.
Families First COVID-19 C1 - \$85,327.10 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.
Families First COVID-19 C2 - \$300,033.75 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.
CCAA - \$231,393.82 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.
ARP C1- \$94,192.44 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.
ARP C2 - \$257,746.12 - nutrition services/meals to seniors.

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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Requested funds will be applied to the differential cost of an enhanced Kosher menu with similar quality and variety to a non Kosher menu, the differential for holiday meals, produce boxes, and snacks to supplement meals to support seniors with religious dietary restrictions (Kosher or Halal).	600,000
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)

600,000

14. Program Performance

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

The purpose of these funds will be to cover the difference in the costs of Kosher food, that is substantially more expensive than standard food. This difference in costs makes it extremely hard for seniors living in poverty or income constrained situations to afford food that is in line with their religiously mandated dietary restrictions. Our agency is the ONLY Kosher food provider in Miami Dade providing meals to homebound and medically frail seniors and seniors whose need for nutritional support has increased since the pandemic concomitantly with inflation. Without nutritional support seniors' health will deteriorate, and they will lose their ability to care for themselves in their homes.

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

Staff will assess each senior's nutritional and unmet needs. Kosher meals, supplemental snacks, and/or produce boxes will be provided to clients based on an assessment of nutritional risk.

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

Kosher meals, snacks, and produce will be provided via home deliveries or congregate meal sites to about 1,200 seniors annually. Since Kosher food is more expensive to produce, these funds will cover the cost of providing an equitable nutrition to seniors who may have religious dietary restrictions.

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

The target population is comprised of homebound, frail seniors and more active seniors attending congregate meal sites. Most seniors receiving services are extremely low income. We expect to serve more than 1,200 individuals.

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

Senior clients will maintain nutritionally balanced diets and are able to enhance their quality of life and independence while living in their own homes. Additionally, senior clients will feel less food insecure. Clients will also save money on food costs and can allocate funds to other necessities. Social Workers and support staff conduct annual assessment of nutritional risk scores and assess health and wellness of each senior client. The number of meals and clients served is tracked monthly. Annual satisfaction surveys track clients' feelings of food insecurity.

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?

There is a severe adverse impact in denying nutritional support of equal quality to seniors that have religious dietary restrictions. Our agency is the ONLY Kosher food provider in Miami Dade providing meals to homebound and medically frail seniors and seniors whose need for nutritional support has increased since the pandemic concomitantly with inflation. Without nutritional support seniors' health will deteriorate, and they will lose their ability to care for themselves in their homes.

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