



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2665

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The program will be an afterschool and weekend program for high school students with the specific purpose of introducing, nurturing, mentoring, and tutoring promising foster children and economically disadvantaged and at risk high school students who are interested in pursuing higher education studies and careers in STEM (i.e. engineering, information technology, medical, graphic design, science, environmental careers, research, etc.) At least fifty high school students will be enrolled in the program, which will be conducted via weekly and weekend video conferencing workshops and some in person workshops. In addition, there will be field trips to significant places of interest (NASA - Cape Canaveral, military bases, hospitals, a manufacturing facility, power plants, and environmental facilities and sites to demonstrate first hand how STEM applies to specific careers.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	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 2023-2024	250,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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.

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



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Yes

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

\$50,000 funds were a PPP loan.

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	Executive Director will startup, manage, and oversee the day to day operations of the program. The executive director will be responsible for the operation of the program, and will identify and secure additional financial, in-kind resources, assistance, mentors, facilities to host the program, and other ancillary resources that may be required to conduct and ensure a successful program.	45,000
Other Salary and Benefits	The Executive assistant will assist with managing the program, providing case management and independent living skills training and education to the foster children participating in the program, scheduling events, maintaining a database of mentors, in-kind resources and donations, and assisting the director with tasks required to successfully operate the program.	40,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Office space, computer and printer equipment, Internet services, office supplies (paper, copying, phone).	15,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding will be used for hands-on S.T.E.M. kits and activities, stipends for mentors, field trips to significant places of S.T.E.M. interests (NASA, military base, hospital, manufacturing facilities) where technology is used to produce a service, process, product, medical care, and to purchase computers and STEM technology oriented instruction materials, hands on exercises related to program.	100,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funding will be used to contract with subject matter speakers, transportation companies to transport participants on field trip visits and tours, to rent facilities for onsite and in person workshops, and other services as needed including supplies, technology, etc.	50,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

14. Program Performance

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

The specific purpose and goal of the requested funds is to startup and implement an ongoing after-school and weekend program that nurtures, mentors, advises, and provides tutoring services to high school students (i.e. foster children, economically disadvantaged, at risk) while concurrently introducing the disadvantaged students to education and career opportunities in STEM professions. There is an ongoing need for STEM professionals and there is an equal need to increase the number of minorities in the STEM profession.

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

Workshops will be conducted after-school and on weekends using video conferencing technology and in person meetings will be conducted weekly to introduce high school students in urban and inner city communities to career and educational STEM opportunities. All activities and services will be designed to increase the number of high school students pursuing STEM studies and careers.

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

The High School Students enrolled in the S.T.E.M. and Vocational Trades Learning Zone afterschool and weekend program will be provided tutoring, coaching, homework assistance, academic counseling, mentoring, and hands on exercises at workshops that will nurture and encourage students to pursue higher education S.T.E.M. studies and high paying careers in S.T.E.M. and vocational trade jobs.

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

The target population is high school students that are children in foster homes, children in care of the Florida Department of Children and Families, economically disadvantaged youth, at risk youth living in urban and inner city communities, homeless youth.

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

The students enrolled in the program will be tutored, mentored, quizzed, and tested monthly, report and progress reports from their high school will be collected, a database will be set up and used to track the student's progress and need for assistance and remedial assistance.

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 should be no penalties if the organization receiving the requested funds can verify and demonstrate that every effort was made to fulfill the terms and requirements of the contract with the agency that provided the funds.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name	Debra	Last Name	McGowan
b. Organization	Bridging Lives, Inc.		
c. E-mail Address	debramcgowan44@embarqmail.com		
d. Phone Number	(407)538-8239	Ext.	



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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