



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1527

1. **Title of Project:** United Against Poverty Capital Improvements and Training

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Debbie Mayfield

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/13/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

United Against Poverty (UP), is an anti-poverty agency with locations in Indian River, St. Lucie, and Orange Counties, serving Central Florida and the Treasure Coast. UP has 4 programs that empower low-income persons to become economically self-sufficient: a large Grocery Program, a Workforce Development Program, Crisis Stabilization and Education. The UP Member Share Grocery Program (MSGP) is a hunger relief program where low-income families can access a variety of food and hygiene items to meet their needs. This program serves 1,497 Floridians everyday and 23,699 unique households annually. The UP Success Training Employment Program (STEP) is a comprehensive workforce development program that offers participants emotional intelligence and workplace skills training, serving 449 Floridians in 2018. Each site also houses a Crisis Stabilization and Education program, with access to multiple on-site service providers. This request will expand these programs to assist more Floridians.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	60,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,001,400
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,061,400</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,061,400	13.37%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	6,876,832	86.63%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>7,938,232</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2016-17		200,000		No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 1000000

#### 10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Other Salary and Benefits	N/A	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	N/A	0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	N/A	0
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Funding would be used for the salaries of 3 part-time STEP Facilitators, one at each location (Orlando, Vero Beach and Fort Pierce) to expand and increase program accessibility. This cost will be matched 100% by private foundation grant funding and UP development annual fund-raising.	60,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding would be used to purchase 8 electric pallet jacks, 5 refrigerated trailers, 5 refrigerated box trucks, and 3 non-refrigerated trailers. These would be used for food distribution. This cost will be matched 100% via revenue contributed from corporate product donations (projected to be \$6,876,832 in 2019).	1,001,400
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	N/A	0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	N/A	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,061,400</b>

#### 11. Program Performance:

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

The specific purpose is to purchase logistical distribution and warehouse equipment, including refrigerated trucks and trailers, with the goal of increasing access to fruits, vegetables and proteins for low-income Floridians, including seniors, the homeless, disabled, domestic abuse survivors, veterans and other underserved communities. Additionally, the purpose is to hire additional staff to expand workforce development training opportunities, with a goal of improving the household income of no and low-income Floridians with barriers to employment. UP anticipates an economic impact of \$19,515,632.55 over a period of 12 months from this investment. (Grocery Program investment overall impact of \$15,275,632.55 over 12 months) (Workforce Development investment overall impact of \$4,240,000 over 12 months.)

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



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Initial activities include the purchase of equipment and hiring of 3 part-time positions. Once the equipment has been secured, services for the grocery program will increase and more product will become accessible to income-qualified members of the Member Share Grocery Program. The temperature sensitive trucks, trailers and warehouse equipment will allow for increased, safe and efficient distribution of produce, proteins and other food necessities across the UP locations. In tandem with the activity of hiring of part time staff for workforce development expansion, current staff will begin implementation of waiting lists and establishing locations for STEP expansion. The services to participants include 120 hours of workforce development training, including emotional intelligence and workplace skills, access to Job Developers and Success Coaches.

**c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

The direct services provided are access to subsidized food through the UP Member Share Grocery Program and expanded access to the UP Success Training for Employment Program (STEP). Other direct services provided by UP to citizens include Crisis Stabilization, General Education and access to multiple collaborative Social Service Agencies including health care services; domestic violence, mental health and addiction counseling; Dept. Children and Families benefits access; emergency food pantry; and computers labs for benefits registration, job searching, keyboard and document development skills practice, and employment applications.

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

The target population served by this project are Floridians whose household income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line. This includes vulnerable populations such as homeless families, elders and under-served veterans. In 2018, 23,699 unique families accessed this food program. With support from the appropriation, UP expects increasing the number of unique households served by the food program by 7,500 over 12 months. With the addition of 3 part-time STEP facilitators, UP expects the program to serve an additional 34 participants. In addition, these same families have unlimited free access to our crisis stabilization, education, and job training programs as well as direct emergency services and collaborative agency partner referrals.

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

UP anticipates the benefit of new logistical distribution equipment to provide more food products to more low-income families, with an estimated economic impact of \$15.2M annually in financial resources retained by program members. This benefit will be measured by: 1. The volume of food distributed safely with the new equipment. 2. The number of new Members to the program. and, 3. The amount of financial resources retained by using the service. This will be verified through monthly audits. UP anticipates the addition of part-time STEP facilitators will benefit low-income adults with access to a workforce development program focusing on emotional intelligence with the outcome of increased income and eventually, economic self-sufficiency. We estimate the economic impact of this aspect to be \$4,2M in increased household income. The benefit will be measured by the number of STEP participants engaged and amount of increased income. Staff will monitor and verify participants' income changes.

**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 in the contract?**

If we do not meet our deliverables, funding would be returned. If the issue is related to a time delay based on unanticipated events, we may seek to negotiate an extension to fully meet deliverables.



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**12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

N/A

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Austin Hunt
- b. **Organization:** United Against Poverty
- c. **E-mail Address:** Austin@UnitedAgainstPoverty.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (772)633-6275

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** United Against Poverty
- b. **County:** Indian River
- c. **Organization Type:**
  - For Profit
  - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
  - Local Entity
  - University or College
  - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** David Flynt
- e. **E-mail Address:** David@UnitedAgainstPoverty.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (772)532-8510

**15. Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm Name:** None
- c. **E-mail Address:**
- d. **Phone Number:**