



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1968

1. **Title of Project:** Riviera Beach Early Learning to Kindergarten Pilot

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Bobby Powell

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

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Riviera Beach Early Learning to Kindergarten Pilot is a comprehensive plan written in collaboration with community stakeholders to support increased Kindergarten readiness and long-term school success. The goal of this visionary initiative is to create a foundation of high quality early education for all three and four-year-olds in the Riviera Beach community.

Currently in its first year of implementation with eight early learning programs, the pilot is established and working towards its preliminary outcomes. Research tells us that true impacts from the project will come in years two and three when results can be tracked across additional groups of children entering Kindergarten and those that have experienced the pilot for longer periods of time. The goal for year two is to continue the work started in year one and add two additional early learning programs along with expanding the educational pipeline down to infants and toddlers.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Office of Early Learning

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,209,065
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	1,209,065

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)	1,209,065	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	1,209,065	100.0%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		150,000	84	No



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9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits	Allocated Administrative Salary and Benefit	21,794
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Non Salary Allocated Administrative costs	6,151
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	2 Education Specialists salary and benefits = 126, 220	126,220
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Curriculum, program supplies, assessments and professional development, Local travel	974,900
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	1 contracted Mental Health clinician = \$80,000	80,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,209,065

11. Program Performance:

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

Increase school readiness and boost long-term school success for the children and families of Riviera Beach through supports to existing community early learning programs.

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

The Riviera Beach Early Learning to Kindergarten Pilot is focused on creating a community support network that assures every child in Riviera Beach has access to a high-quality preschool education. This is a partnership between community stakeholders, Riviera Beach early learning programs, the School District of Palm Beach County, the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County (a local special taxing district focused on early childhood outcomes) and the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County. The pilot activities are aimed at building upon the existing strengths of each early learning program and supplementing with the following supports and services: Age appropriate curricula, training and implementation support; mental health consultation with each participating program to support educators, children and families; classroom materials to support teaching and learning; partnerships with the School District and the Children's Services Council to maximize supports.

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

Support for early learning programs in Riviera Beach through 1) Family supports via family engagement activities 2) Program supports via therapists, education specialists, plus an additional aide per classroom 3) Ongoing independent child assessment to measure progress and plan for continuous improvement 4) CLASS



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assessment for all pilot classrooms 5) Implementation of research-based curricula 6) Program materials to enhance classroom settings 7) Strong ongoing connections with Kindergarten faculty from the community elementary schools

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

Three and four year old children in Riviera Beach attending partner early learning programs with an estimate of 300 children to be served.

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

The Riviera Beach Early Learning to Kindergarten Pilot is focused on an increase in Kindergarten readiness rates and overall school success however the collaborative understands there are multiple factors to reach this goal. Project deliverables include: 1) Family supports and education to increase parental engagement and advocacy 2) Provision of support services for children and families who demonstrate a need in the form of therapy services, speech services and referrals 3) Increasing support to early learning program administrators and teaching staff in the form of professional development and on-site technical assistance to maximize the efforts while children are in program. 4) Creating opportunities for early learning programs and elementary school teachers to dialogue frequently on the transition process and the Kindergarten/school experience.

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?

Reduction in funding

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.

Participating early learning providers

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Warren Eldridge
- b. **Organization:** Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
- c. **E-mail Address:** warren.eldridge@elcpalmbeach.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)214-7433

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County
- b. **County:** Palm Beach
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College



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Other (Please specify)

d. Contact Name: Warren Eldridge

e. E-mail Address: warren.eldridge@elcpalmbeach.org

f. Phone Number: (561)214-7433

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name: Allyce Heflin

b. Firm Name: Southern Strategy Group

c. E-mail Address: heflin@sostrategy.com

d. Phone Number: (850)445-6674