



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2621

1. **Title of Project:** Life Town Education Center

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Bill Montford

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/22/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Life Town Education Center program focuses on serving children and young adults with disabilities in the Panhandle of Florida, which includes communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. This project request fulfills a major gap for these types of services in rural North Florida. The Life Town Center will be a 25,000 SQFT workforce training facility, located in Leon County, but serving a 150 mile radius. The facility will provide hands-on learning experiences for children, youth, and adults, with a focus on workforce training. The Life Town Center will have front facing retail operating businesses (designated micro-businesses) that will employ people with disabilities trained from the Employment Training Program (ETP). This partnership with local community businesses will provide a supported environment for people with disabilities.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Economic Opportunity

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	25.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	3,000,000	75.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	4,000,000	100.0%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2621

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		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction.	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

11. Program Performance:

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

Children with special needs are maturing into adulthood without the life skills needed to be successful at home, work, or in personal relationships. Young adults with special needs are graduating from high school and living life at home with their parents/guardians because their soft skills and independent living skills are not developed to prepare them to be successful in the workforce. Agencies intended to support young adults in the transition are falling short in supporting the long-term needs in communities. Families of individuals with disabilities are suffering because of a lack of educational opportunities for the individuals to be mentored for success in skills necessary to be independent in life. Few employers offer opportunities for a supported environment for employees with special needs. Progressive Pediatric will provide programs for long-term support and mentorships that will create career opportunities to train and consistently support the development of independence.

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

Build a 25,000 square foot facility (estimated \$7.5 million). Activities and services will be provided through the Life Town Program. Facility areas will be able to be rented out for income sustainability.

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

Workforce training, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, and education.

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

Serving infants to adults, the number of people anticipated to be served in the initial year is 500 people (children to adults). Progressive Pediatric anticipates serving up to 1,000 people annually within 5 years, on a regular basis.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2621

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

To provide direct and indirect support to people with disabilities to have supported work experiences which will allow an individual with a disability to: 1. be assessed for job related skill sets that that individual enjoys and can do; 2. build a resume with actual work experience; and 3. be provided with varied work experiences in a supported environment.

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?

Standard contract penalties will be outlined in contract between Progressive Pediatric and the state agency.

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.

Progressive Pediatric Foundation, Inc.

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. Name:** Kevin Kolka
- b. Organization:** Progressive Pediatric Foundation, Inc.
- c. E-mail Address:** Kevin.Kolka@progressivepediatric.org
- d. Phone Number:** (325)325-6301

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. Organization:** Progressive Pediatric Foundation, Inc.
- b. County:** Leon
- 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:** Kevin Kolka
- e. E-mail Address:** Kevin.Kolka@progressivepediatric.org
- f. Phone Number:** (325)325-6301

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name:** Bryan Cherry
- b. Firm Name:** PinPoint Results
- c. E-mail Address:** bryan@pinpointresults.com
- d. Phone Number:** (544)544-5673