



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2637

1. Title of Project: Legal Services Clinic of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, Inc.

2. Senate Sponsor: Jeff Brandes

3. Date of Submission: 03/26/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

The Legal Services Clinic of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, Inc., is a stand-alone non-profit organization, (501(c)(3)), whose primary mission is to offer no cost and/or affordable legal assistance to those impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The Clinic's continuing mission is to provide legal services for underserved communities who have been peripherally impacted.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Legal Affairs and Attorney General

State Agency Contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	980,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	980,000

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)	980,000	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	980,000	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		750,000	1297	No

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		



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Other Salary and Benefits	Attorneys, paralegals, administrative assistants and any and all necessary support personnel	594,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	2 offices (Miami and Orlando), office equipment, utilities, telephones, insurance, Internet (website), court costs and fees.	110,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Outreach, market research and surveys, grant writers, marketing/advertising, monitoring and accounting.	276,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		980,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The rendering of culturally and linguistically competent legal services to low income families who otherwise would not have access to legal representation. We will also be able to meet this goal by having attorneys licensed in other states and jurisdictions e.g. to that end, the clinic is also certified as a Florida Supreme Court certified legal aid.

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

Any and all competent legal representation deemed necessary.

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

Legal representation and guidance.

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

Those who have been impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Maria and are in need of legal representation and the underserved communities who have been peripherally impacted. We expect to serve as many as possible of the approximate 300,000 people, who have already arrived in Florida. The number of clients served will be based on available funding.

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

To provide the targeted community the same legal recourse and accessibility to our justice system as any other Floridian. The outcome will be measured by the number of clients we serve, which will be documented by intake forms, logs, files and case management software.

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?



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None.

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.

Not applicable

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Anthony Suarez
- b. **Organization:** Legal Services Clinic of the Puerto Rican Bar Association
- c. **E-mail Address:** suarez@cfl.rr.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (407)841-7373

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Legal Services Clinic of the Puerto Rican Bar Association, Inc.
- b. **County:** Statewide
- 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:** Anthony Suarez
- e. **E-mail Address:** suarez@cfl.rr.com
- f. **Phone Number:** (407)841-7373

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

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