



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1014

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Family Cafe is the leading source of information, resources, and networking for Floridians with disabilities. It hosts the largest statewide cross-disability event in the nation, The Annual Family Café, which connects attendees with resources that are relevant to them and allow them to identify strategies to thrive in the community. It also provides a platform for state agencies and policy makers to connect with the citizens they serve. The Family Café also promotes leadership among youth with disabilities through its Florida Youth Council, and supports the development of local family organizations through a Family-Run Organization Movement initiative, so Floridians can access the connections, resources, and natural supports that The Annual Family Cafe offers on a local level throughout the year. This specific project will support The 24th Annual Family Cafe in June 2022, Florida Youth Council activities, and local resource development via the Family-Run Organization Movement.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	600,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	600,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	600,000	54%
Matching Funds		
Federal	150,000	14%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	350,000	32%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	1,100,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21	350,000	600,000	115	No

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.

No other source of public funding exists. The Family Cafe seeks out sponsorships and private contributions on an ongoing basis, however that source has been insufficient to meet programmatic needs.



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

Yes

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

The Family Cafe received \$102,756 from the paycheck protection program in April of 2020.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Direct costs related to hosting The 24th Annual Family Cafe, implementing Family-Run Organization Movement training and process facilitation, and hosting the Florida Youth Council's Annual Youth Summit and leadership training activities. Expenses include printing and mailing; keynote speakers; A/V services; signage; staff, board, youth council member, and keynote speaker travel to and from The Annual Family Café, the Annual Youth Summit, youth leadership trainings, and Family-Run Organization in	600,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		600,000

12. Program Performance

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

The requested funding will allow The Family Cafe to support and promote the self-sufficiency and wellbeing of Floridians with disabilities. Funds will allow The Family Café to connect Floridians with disabilities and their families with information, resources, and networking opportunities, both through The Annual Family Café event, and on a regular basis throughout the year. The Annual Family Café will connect families with peers, commercial service providers, and public entities to find out what services are available to them, which best serve their needs, and how to go about securing those services. The Family-Run Organization Movement project will replicate the organization's statewide success by developing local family organizations. The Florida Youth Council program will foster leadership among the next generation of disability leaders.

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



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The primary activity that will be funded through this request is The 24th Annual Family Café. This three-day event will include approximately 200 breakout sessions; a series of keynote events; The Annual Governor's Summit on Disabilities, where attendees can interact with the Governor and the State Agencies that serve them; and an Exhibit Hall, with a range of providers, partner organizations and private vendors on hand to showcase their services and products for individuals with disabilities. Funding also allows for on-site support of local organizations through a Family-Run Organization Movement project to bolster family-run organizations to create local networks of resources and advocacy. Funding also supports youth leadership promotion through The Florida Youth Council program and its Annual Youth Summit. Other activities include information and referral, provision of news and information via project website and social media channels, and publication of an annual resource guide.

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

The bulk of the direct service provided by The Family Café comes in the form of training at The Annual Family Café. For example, the event in 2019 event consisted of 25.5 hours of total training/information/instruction time, with 17.75 hours of that being direct training. With over 12,842 attendance the Annual Family Cafe costs a scant \$1.72 an hour for this training per individual. In 2020, the virtual event was viewed by, and had interaction with, over 300,000 individuals nationwide. The project also provides direct service to family leaders engaged in the Family-Run Organization Movement through on-site training and assistance in their communities. The Family Café also provides information dissemination through its website, mass email list, and social media channels, and publishes an annual resource guide called the Questions & Answers Book, which compiles State Agency responses to questions and comments from Florida families in a publication that is released each fall.

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

The Family Café primarily serves K-12 students with disabilities or special health care needs and their families. It is also open to other Floridians with disabilities, including transition-age youth.

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

The Family Café makes individuals with disabilities better equipped to flourish in the community. The project will lead to informed families better able to identify resources, engaged youth disability leaders able to lead their peers in transition to independence, and a network of local family-run organizations able to support Floridians with disabilities where they live. The Family Café collects data regarding satisfaction with The Annual Family Café through a survey tool known as the "Report Card." It offers a means to provide both objective and subjective feedback about the event. A similar survey tool is used to assess the efficacy of the Annual Youth Summit. The survey document also includes prompts that allow respondents to share their thoughts on how the project impacts their ability to live productive, engaged lives in the community. Information obtained from responses guides The Family Café Planning Committee in determining what subject areas to address in the coming year.

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?

The Family Cafe has a long-standing working relationship with the Florida Department of Education, and possesses a strong understanding of the expectations related to project performance and deliverables. The Family Cafe is prepared to meet DOE's expectations, to adjust implementation plans, and provide all necessary information and documentation to demonstrate a good faith effort to meet department requirements.

13. 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.

The Family Cafe does not receive fixed capital outlay funding.
As
a 501 c(3) there are no owners.



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14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

15. 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

16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number