



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1090

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Cuban American Bar Association Pro Bono Project's mission is to change the lives of children, individuals and families in need by providing free legal services and representation to those who cannot otherwise afford it - regardless of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation or national origin. We focus on helping victims of Domestic Violence, Victims of Human Trafficking, Veterans and children. Caba Pro Bono employs a staff of 10 including 6 attorneys, 3 paralegals and 1 office manager.

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	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	39%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	550,000	61%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	900,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21	0	100,000	1332	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.

CABA Pro Bono also receives funding from the Florida Bar Foundation, Miami Dade County, the Children's Trust and local fundraising efforts. However, CABA Pro Bono needs continued support from the State of Florida in order to continue to effectively carry out their mission.

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



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Yes

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

CABA Pro Bono received the PPP loan in the amount of \$137,500. These funds were used to pay for staff salaries.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The executive director is responsible for overseeing the office administration and supervising all legal services provided through the Program. The ED is also responsible for conducting outreach in the community and overseeing recruitment of volunteer attorneys to assist with the office's large caseload.	30,000
Other Salary and Benefits	The Office Manager is in charge of the organization's accounting and of making sure that the office's daily operations run smoothly.	25,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	We hire a consultant to serve as our CFO and manage the Organization's accounting. We hire a marketing company to conduct outreach in the community to inform potential clients about our organization as well as to help recruit volunteer attorneys. Additionally, we hire a technological support company to monitor the Organization's computer system and assist with any technology issues that are encountered.	25,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	We pay salaries and benefits for 4 full-time attorneys that we have on staff. These attorneys solely work for CABA Pro Bono and are responsible for providing direct services in the form of legal representation to children, families, veterans and individuals that we represent.	240,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This amount will be used to cover court fees and other litigation costs including court reporters, process servers and court translators. This amount will also be used to cover other program costs including mileage when traveling outside of Miami Dade, parking, telephones/ internet and office supplies	30,000
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)		350,000

12. Program Performance

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

Holistic legal Services and Representation will be provided to Veterans, Victims of Human Trafficking, Victims of Domestic Violence and Children that have been abused, abandoned and neglected. By providing free legal services we are assisting individuals and families regain personal stability, safety, join the work force and become contributing members of our State. The legal services that we provide empower victims, children, veterans in treatment court and other individuals that we represent to seek and maintain employment and/or an education. By empowering the weakest members in the State of Florida, the cumulative result is that we strengthen our State as a whole.

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



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We will provide free legal services and representation in various areas of law including: Family Law, Domestic Violence, Juvenile dependency and Landlord Tenant. We will be attending Veterans Treatment Court and G.R.A.C.E. Court weekly (G.R.A.C.E. court is specifically for victims of Human Trafficking) to offer legal representation to all veterans and victims of human trafficking with court proceedings. We will also conduct regular outreach across the State. Additionally, we will hold various CLE seminars to train and mentor volunteer attorneys that will be representing clients pro bono. These funds will help empower the most vulnerable members of our State through legal services so that they can become contributing members of our State.

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

Services will range from full direct court representation across multiple areas of law, to legal services with filling out documents to help the clients proceed pro se, to legal counsel and advice.

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

This program serves Victims of Human Trafficking, Victims of Domestic Violence, Veterans and Children in the Foster Care System. We serve the Elderly, jobless, economically disadvantaged and at-risk-youth. We expect to serve 1500 - 1800 individuals.

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

When representing foster children, we request the appropriate support and educational placement, so that the child feels safe, can thrive and have a successful future. Additionally, victims are not provided with free legal services and thus do not usually testify against their perpetrators. By providing victims with legal representation, we are providing them with the support that they need to testify against the aggressor. This testimony aids the prosecution in obtaining convictions and keeps our State safer. By providing free legal services we are also reducing the amount of pro se litigants and increasing judicial economy along with the economic and social costs associated with domestic violence and human trafficking. By providing free legal services we veterans, we are providing support to those who have done so much for our Country and may currently be facing a legal family law or housing issue. Our services empower clients and reduces their future need for government assistance.

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?

If deliverables are not met, money will be deducted from the total amount due to the agency as detailed in the contract.

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.

Not applicable



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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