



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1403

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The concept of Project TALKS – Talk, Act, Listen, Know, Support - is to create talkable communities. This is the first program of its kind in the state of Florida to leverage the power of 5 major behavioral health providers (Starting Point, Gateway, Child Guidance Center, Clay Bhavioral and EPIC) across 6 counties (Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam and Flagler) to spread the message of attainable mental wellbeing to Northeast Florida. Our project creates trauma informed communities that will encourage healthy conversations, activities and interventions that we believe will spearhead a focus on mental well-being leading to happy, healthier lives.

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	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	66%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	135,000	23%
Local	63,000	11%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	598,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

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.

Starting Point currently receives grant funding to support specific activities of this project, and will bill Medicaid/Insurance for direct patient care. Many activities are not covered by other funding sources, especially trauma support for survivors and first responders.

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.

Starting Point received \$161,063 from HHS through the Provider Relief Fund to cover Medicaid losses and \$70,000 from Nassau County Government through the Cares Act for telehealth expansion.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project Head is a Licensed Mental Health Professional (0.85 FTE)	61,710
Other Salary and Benefits	Project Coordinator (0.5 FTE) The other 0.5 is paid through a grant.	30,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses related to the project for the 2 positions identified above.	7,790
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Includes 1 care coordinator, 1 Americorp member, 2 Licensed Therapists, and 1 Psychiatric ARNP.	207,150
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Includes travel equipment, licensing fees, training, materials and supplies.	67,850
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consulting for marketing, evaluation, and technical assistance.	25,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		400,000

12. Program Performance

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

The concept of Project TALKS – Talk, Act, Listen, Know, Support - is to create talkable communities. This is the first program of its kind in the state of Florida to leverage the power of 5 major behavioral health providers across 6 counties to spread the message of attainable mental wellbeing to Northeast Florida. Our project creates trauma informed communities that will encourage healthy conversations, activities and interventions that we believe will spearhead a focus on mental well-being leading to happy, healthier lives. Project TALKS goal is to create talkable communities that foster improved physical and mental well-being, increase social connectedness, decrease the incidence of MH crisis and effectively address trauma.

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

- Create talkable communities throughout NEFL through to increase the number of individuals with the ability to respond to a mental health Crisis.
- Expand care coordination activities in local hospitals to connect with those experiencing a mental health crisis
- Develop a partnership with first responders that integrates a MH professional into their response team and that offers trauma support to first responders
- Provide trauma support to family and friends who have lost someone due to suicide and/or overdose

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



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Training in Mental Health First Aid, ACES and QPR throughout 6 counties in Northeast Florida. Care Coordinators on-site in the emergency department will meet with individuals in a MH crisis, Baker Act and/or overdose, assess their needs, develop a care plan, and provide direct service in the community until the person is stable. Mental health professional will respond to MH crisis along side first responders and provide immediate care to the individual in crisis. Crisis counselors trained in Trauma informed care will provide individual/group support to families and first responders after a death by suicide or overdose.

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

Individual with a mental illness; Individuals experiencing a mental health crisis; first responders; family/friends who have lost someone to suicide or overdose; community at large; youth; and adults. We expect to serve over 400 people each year.

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

Provide mental health increased knowledge on signs, symptoms and risk factors of mental illness; increase confidence in and likelihood to help an individual in distress. Measurement – number of individuals trained, number of trainings provided care coordination has been proven to increase retention rates and follow up care of patients after hospitalization, decrease costs associated with high utilization, improve a patients access and connection to resources. Measurement -Engagement - % referral to care coordination, % who engage in care coordination, % who refuse care coordination. Reduction in recidivism - % who have a readmission within 30 days. The integration of a mental health professional with first responders and law enforcement can reduce the incidence of violence, trauma, and involuntary hospitalizations, and increase the engagement rate for follow up care. Measurement – % of BA diversions, % of engagement in services. # of first responders who receive trauma support.

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?

Penalties include loss of contract and funding.

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.

N/A



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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