



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1767

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This program is to create a network of climate-smart, organic and highly productive farms, using aquaponics facilities, and training hundreds of new aquaponics farmers/entrepreneurs. This kind of agribusiness farming, carried out in any setting (including urban), will facilitate great economic development while establishing healthy, locally grown, farm-to-table produce in our Florida Communities. This addresses/solves current food security issues, pandemic produced food shortages, and is totally climate smart. With the funding requested, up to three sites are anticipated to be implemented.

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	950,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,550,000
Total State Funds Requested	3,500,000

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)	3,500,000	65%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,750,000	32%
Other	150,000	3%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	5,400,000	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.

n/a

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



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

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director (\$79,000) 3 Facility Managers - one at each site (\$168,000 total) Comptroller (\$46,000) Administrative Assistant - assigned to Executive Director of Program (\$40,000)	333,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	3 Aquaponics Instructors - one at each site (\$147,000 total) 3 Marketing and Distribution Managers - one at each site (\$105,000 total) 6 Farming workers - two at each site (\$150,000 total)	402,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Seed, growing medium, farm equipment, utilities, office and communications equipment.	185,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Performance evaluation report	30,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Water tanks, irrigation systems, pumping systems, growing canopies, materials and supply to create complex farm	2,550,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		3,500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The program is designed to have multiple purposes: training youth and community workers in farming and management techniques; approximately 25,000 vegetables will be produced in each facility each month (75,000 total), and approximately 150 new aquaponics farmers/entrepreneurs will be trained each year.

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

Adult education and training classes, along with youth seminars focused on healthy eating habits, nutrition and urban farming will take place within the facility. The facility is also open to field trips and other community events.

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

Statewide, between 350 and 450 youth of the community will be trained to improve not only their own lives, but also that of the community as improved urban farming techniques are taught, water quality maintenance and management techniques are taught, and quality produce will be made available to the community and the school district at no cost.

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

The target population for this program are community youth, school districts, and the community at large.

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



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Approximately 25,000 vegetables will be produced in each facility each month (75,000 total), and approximately 150 new aquaponics farmers/entrepreneurs will be trained each 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?

This contract will not be renewed if it fails to meet the contract performance 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.

Native Fresh, Inc. is a program of FreshMinistries, Inc. which is a 501(c)(3)



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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