



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1801

1. Project Title The Nspire Interrupters Program: A Violence Interrupters Model-Based Approach

2. Senate Sponsor Keith Perry

3. Date of Request 01/26/2021

4. Project/Program Description

The city of Gainesville has experienced an increase in gun violence over the past year. There were 130 verified incidents of gunshots with 6 homicides. This is compared to 2 homicides for all of 2019. In 2021, as part of our comprehensive strategy to reduce gun violence, we launched the Nspire Interrupter Program. It is based on the Violence Interrupters model that applies a medical model to curbing violence. Violent behavior, like disease, is transmitted through close contact with others, particularly young adults and teens. Based on strategies used by doctors to treat epidemics a public health approach to violence works to prevent the transmission of violence within a community by targeting and treating those at highest risk of being affected by violent acts and subsequently committing them. The Nspire Interrupters will apply the 3 core components of: Detection; Ongoing Behavior change; and modification of community culture.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Corrections

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	230,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	230,000

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)	230,000	69%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	105,000	31%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	335,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.



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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.

\$200,000 was received to augment personnel and to acquire PPE to address COVID-19 conditions.

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	Four Nspire Interrupter Positions	140,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Each Nspire Interrupter will be equipped w/ a laptop computer, mobile device and safety vest. The funds will also be applied to the annual cost for mobile service and software applications. All Interrupters will also undergo intensive training on the Violence Interrupter model via Cure Violence Global, as well as Mental Health 1st Aid training and other relevant training. They will also visit other successful Violence Interrupter program sites to facilitate further development of our model.	90,000
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)		230,000

12. Program Performance

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

The funds requested to enhance our implementation of the Nspire Interrupters Program will allow us to have a full complement of Interrupters to apply a public health approach toward deterring the continued spread of violent acts in our community. Their goal will be to target and treat persons with the highest risk of transmission of violence; and through community organizing and education change community norms that when left unchecked have led to and enabled the growth/spread of violent crime.

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

The Nspire Interrupters' work will focus specifically on detection, mentoring, education and community organization. They will detect potentially violent events and interrupt their commission through the utilization of various mediation techniques. They will provide ongoing behavior change in the target communities by developing relationships with high-risk transmitters, mentoring them and facilitating their access to social services. Interrupters will work within the target communities to help organize and build a collaborative relationship with law enforcement, local government, community health services and social services.

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



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Direct services to be provided to the citizens in the targeted neighborhoods include: (1) mediation of conflicts utilizing techniques such as cognitive dissonance, derailing and negotiating compromise; (2) mentoring services to individuals identified as violence transmitters, in order to develop relationships with them and through those relationships impart messages to reject violent behaviors; and (3) establishing and maintaining organized neighborhood councils that will work to ensure ongoing collaboration between the community/neighborhood they represent and local government leaders, local law enforcement, health services & social services providers.

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

The Nspire Interrupters Program will target identified violence transmitters residing in the Pine Ridge and Duval Heights neighborhoods where approximately a third of households live below poverty. These neighborhoods are the leading communities where law enforcement data show the highest incidence of violent indicators. It is projected that the Inspire Interrupters will have a total direct caseload of 50 violence transmitters, equating to one for nearly every seven homes given the data on violence specific to these neighborhoods.

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

- (1) Reduction in violent crime transmission. Results to be measured by using local law enforcement calls for service data.
- (2) Improvement in the trust relationship between the target communities and local law enforcement. Results to be measured by using attitude surveys.
- (3) Modify the community culture regarding violence. Results to be measured by using attitude surveys.

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?

None

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) Local Government Entity

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