



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1887

1. Project Title Miami Project to Cure Paralysis - Spinal Cord and Traumatic Brain Injury Research

2. Senate Sponsor Ana Maria Rodriguez

3. Date of Request 02/23/2021

#### 4. Project/Program Description

The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis is an internationally renowned comprehensive spinal cord and brain injury research program that is translating new discoveries to the clinic. Our goal is to conduct basic, translational and clinical research to restore functional recovery and quality of life for those suffering from paralysis. Our investigative teams are focusing on a number of neurological disorders including traumatic brain and spinal cord injury, concussion and other neurological disorders such as multiple sclerosis and other neurodegenerative disorders. The Miami Project has assembled an international team of scientists, physicians and therapists who conduct carefully designed and controlled research, and move promising neuroprotective, cell therapies and innovative rehabilitation approaches to clinical application in humans including an established drug discovery platform.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Health

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

#### 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)	1,000,000	13%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	4,283,175	56%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	1,568,000	21%
Local	0	0%
Other	750,000	10%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</b>	<b>7,601,175</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21	0	750,000	517	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 1,000,000

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



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If the current economic conditions would improve, private philanthropic support could assist in research funding.  
Increased federal spending for medical research would also allow our scientists to apply for additional federal research grants.

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

No

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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Scientific Director (salary and benefits)	56,521
Other Salary and Benefits	Salary and Benefits other personnel	89,629
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Equipment, supplies, animals and F&A	83,906
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Scientists, research associates, post docs and lab technician	478,521
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Other Lab supplies, animals, core and F&A	291,423
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

The goal of The Miami Project is to develop new therapeutic interventions to improved clinical care for those living with a traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury and other disorders that lead to paralysis and loss of function. The proposed research programs will provide the scientific and medical community with new knowledge related to cellular and molecular injury mechanisms that represent new therapeutic targets for drug discovery and other strategies that protect and repair the nervous system after acute and chronic injury. In addition, the funds provided by the State will also allow our scientists to obtain critical data necessary to submit successful NIH, Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs grant applications which are critical to moving our FDA Approved Clinical Trial programs forward.

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

The research that will be conducted includes basic science to further understand the pathophysiology of neurological disorders, translational research necessary to move these basic discoveries forward to clinical application and our clinical trials which are testing these therapies in research subjects to determine their safety and efficacy. The Miami Project has established a successful pipeline for the translation of new discoveries to the clinic that has already resulted in significant improvements in the care and treatment of patients

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

Individuals who qualify for our clinical trials will be enrolled and able to participate in our research studies.

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



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The target populations served by this project are people living with paralysis following spinal cord injury, peripheral nerve injury, traumatic brain injury and other neurological conditions such as multiple sclerosis and neurodegenerative disorders.

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

Each project will address specific research questions that are highly relevant to an important scientific problem using established technologies and experimental protocols. During the funding period, progress will be evaluated by written progress reports including qualitative and quantitative data related to the proposed specific aims. These findings will then be submitted to scientific journals for peer review and publication.

**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 penalty for failing to meet the conditions of the contract is termination.

**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