



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1057

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Operation G.R.O.W. is an internship program providing real-world and simulated work experiences to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities with the goal of obtaining competitive, integrated employment. In the course of the internships, Operation G.R.O.W.'s Employment Coaches provide job skills training, supported employment, and customized employment opportunities. Operation G.R.O.W.'s goal is to build upon and enhance the existing skills of its interns. This is accomplished through internships with community partners, classroom instruction, and Inspire's partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation. Employment in the community will enable their interns to become more financially independent, rely less on government benefits, and contribute to their community. Inspire of Central Florida is seeking to continue providing the services of Operation G.R.O.W., building capacity to meet the needs of adults with differing abilities in Central Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	348,618
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	348,618

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	348,618	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	348,618	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	352,323	242	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.
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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.

Inspire received two SBA Payroll Protection Plan draws.
 Draw #1 \$89,700 and Draw #2 \$98,197.
 These funds were utilized to maintain the salaries of all employees and avoid staff furloughs during 2020.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	30% of the Executive Director's salary.	31,290
Other Salary and Benefits	30% of the Finance Officer and Administrative Assistants salary.	24,403
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Workman's Comp fees and 15% Administrative Costs	54,820
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Program Coordinator and two Employment Coaches salary.	100,725
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Upgraded technology, including software, enhance RMS system, transportation to and from job sites, staff training, 30% of facility insurance, utilities, PPE and janitorial supplies, maintenance and equipment leases. Also, establish inventory and equipment for two locations of Inspire Your Day Café.	111,980
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Dance / wellness and art programs for the clients. Also, Behavioral Analyst consultant.	25,400
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		348,618

12. Program Performance

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

Operation G.R.O.W.'s goal is to build upon existing abilities to develop additional life and employment skills to prepare interns for competitive, integrated employment. Due to the ongoing concerns associated with COVID, we recognize that programmatic adjustments may need to be made in order to ensure the safety of the participants.

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

The interns will be able to achieve the desired goal of competitive, integrated employment by participating in real-world work experience. This experience is provided through internships with our community partners, which include Northland Church, Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, Meals on Wheels, and The Sharing Center. Operation G.R.O.W. has also partnered with Seminole County Government and the Seminole County Sheriff's Office to operate two locations of the Inspire Your Day Cafe.
 We have also partnered with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to assist our interns in obtaining competitive integrated employment.

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



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The interns will obtain practical employment skills through internships with our community partners. By providing this real-world work opportunity, the interns can develop the following skills: workplace socialization, customer service, supervisor and co-worker interaction, attention to task, cashier responsibilities, and custodial duties. The interns will have the opportunity to learn job skills, such as completion of job applications, resume building, professional etiquette, and mock interviews through classroom instruction. In addition, the interns will learn life skills related to employment such as hygiene, appropriate attire, time and money management, basic math, and accessing different forms of public transportation in an effort to build their self-esteem and employability.

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

The target population is adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). We expect to enroll a minimum of twenty-five interns in Operation G.R.O.W. throughout the fiscal year. More than 85% of our program participants are Seminole County residents. Currently, there are nearly 900 individuals with IDD residing in Seminole County.

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

The expected benefits of this projects are as follows: on-the-job training, computer software training, travel training and continuing education. The expected outcome of the project is assisting the interns in gaining successful competitive, integrated employment. The methodology that will be used to measure the project's outcome are pre and post-tests to measure the interns' individual growth as well as quarterly reporting to document each intern's participation.

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 increments of financial consequences that shall apply must be based upon the severity of the noncompliance, nonperformance, or unacceptable performance. The financial consequences shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total project payments. Noncompliance involving the provision of service not having a direct effect on client health and safety may result in the imposition of a five percent (5%) financial consequence. Noncompliance as a result of unacceptable performance of administrative tasks may result in the imposition of a two percent (2%) financial consequence.

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.

We are not requesting any fixed capital outlay.



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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**