



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1231

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

**4. Project/Program Description**

The United Against Poverty, Inc. (UP) Member Share Grocery Program (MSGP) is a unique model of hunger relief for over 19,000 Floridian families struggling with food insecurity. The program has locations in Indian River, St. Lucie and Orange Counties and in the past 12 months has served families from 49 Florida counties (38 Senate and 107 House Districts). The MSGP serves low-income Florida families by providing access to nutritious food and necessary household items while also being environmentally and socially responsible. This helps remove barriers to prosperity and closely aligns with First Lady DeSantis' new HOPE Florida initiative. This food distribution program serves as the introductory program to UP resources that include Crisis Stabilization, Education, and Workforce Development and on-site collaboration with a wraparound continuum of service providers, including the state's Department of Children and Families(DCF).

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?  No

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

| Type of Funding                    | Amount         |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Operations                         | 464,034        |
| Fixed Capital Outlay               | 0              |
| <b>Total State Funds Requested</b> | <b>464,034</b> |

**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)       | 464,034        | 50%         |
| <b>Matching Funds</b>                                |                |             |
| Federal  | 75,000         | 8%          |
| State (excluding the amount of this request)         | 0              | 0%          |
| Local  | 100,000        | 11%         |
| Other  | 289,034        | 31%         |
| <b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023</b> | <b>928,068</b> | <b>100%</b> |

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  Yes

| Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy) | Amount    |              | Specific Appropriation # | Vetoed |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------|--------|
|                       | Recurring | Nonrecurring |                          |        |
| >5 years              | 0         | 250,000      | 23351                    | No     |

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?  Yes

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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The agency typically accesses funding from United Way Funding in Indian River, St Lucie and Orange Counties; local governments; and private foundations such as John's Island Foundation and Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation, Corporations such as Walmart, Bank of America, Advent Health, and Publix Charities, and Individual donations. Additionally, the program generates funds for basic operations.

**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.**

Funds were used for agency operations. In 2020, the St. Lucie County BOCC (through United Way) provided funding in the amount of \$142K for coolers and shelving for grocery program; the Indian River BOCC (through United Way) provided \$200K ; and the Orange County BOCC provided \$106K for a refrigerated truck for the Mobile Market; and Orange CBDG \$190K for program operations. COVID related funds also included Paycheck Protection Program funding in the amount of \$1,012,100.

**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                    |   | 0              |
| Other Salary and Benefits  |   | 0              |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                |   | 0              |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study                                  |   | 0              |
| <b>Operational Costs: Other</b>  |   |                |
| Salary and Benefits  | 50 percent of: Full time Compost Truck Driver - 40 hours @\$15, with fringe. Total cost \$37,128.   | 18,564         |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other                                | 50% of: 26' Refrigerated Box Trucks (4 units @ \$100K average per unit) – \$400K; Refuse truck (used) for Organics (1 unit) \$74900; Used Reefer Trailer (5 Units) – 2019 \$65K \$325K; 2 propane forklifts (2 units @ \$33,685) - \$67,370; Tilt Trucks for distribution (10 units) \$1,155 6x10 - \$11,550; Tilt Truck Lids (10 units) \$215 x10 - \$2150; 2 electric pallets jacks (2 units)\$4985 ea - \$9,970. | 445,470        |
| 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>464,034</b> |

**12. Program Performance**

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

The specific purpose is to get fresh produce, proteins and other nutritional necessities from area farmers and product partners to families in need at UP Centers and mobile sites identified throughout the state. The program has locations in Indian River, St. Lucie and Orange Counties and, in the past 12 months, has served families from 49 Florida counties (38 Senate and 107 House Districts). The goal is to ensure that citizens are free from food insecurity and begin moving toward prosperity.

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



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Activities will focus on improving the supply chain of food among our UP's grocery programs located in Indian River, St. Lucie and Orange counties, and serving surrounding areas. Funds will be used to purchase food distribution and warehouse equipment. The organics Refuse Truck and tilt trucks will facilitate the transport of unusable organic material from the secondary market to a composting facility. The service provided to the citizens is easily accessible groceries as they make their way to economic self-sufficiency.

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

This program provides direct services to citizens in the form of easily accessible grocery centers in multiple locations. The intent is to stop food insecurity and help low-income Florida families remove barriers to economic self-sufficiency. This aligns with the First Lady's recent HOPE Florida initiative and serves as the introductory program to UP resources including Crisis Stabilization, Education, Workforce Development and on-site collaboration with DCF. On-site wraparound continuum of services helps citizens recover from economic setbacks.

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

Floridians living at the 200% Federal Poverty Level or below is the target demographic for UP programs. This includes vulnerable populations such as homeless families, elders, and underserved veterans. The Mobile Markets have also assisted populations new to our model such as migrant workers, human trafficking survivors, rural communities, displaced hospitality and theme park workers due to the pandemic. By the end of 2022, UP expects to serve approximately 22,000 unique households through its UP Centers and Mobile Markets.

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

The grocery distribution will benefit approximately 22,000 Florida households and increase the amount of resources they are able to retain by \$10M. UP program metrics are kept in the FamCare data base. Income-qualified members are entered into the system with basic demographics and issued a membership card. This tracks the number of families accessing the program. Additionally, the grocery program produces an audit twice a month of UP product against retail costs to ensure targeted savings rates are in place. This measures the resources retained by the family. The intended outcome is to lift Florida families to economic self-sufficiency.

**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?**

If UP is unable to meet deliverable or performance measures, funding will be returned.

**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