



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1492

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Runway to Hope's mission is to support families, primarily in Central Florida, fighting pediatric cancer, while seeking a cure. The Family Assistance Program provides direct support to families battling pediatric cancer. Needs are met within approximately 48 hours and range from food, automobile assistance, mortgage/rent payments, utilities, emergency transportation and sadly, funeral/end of life expenses. Often, one parent has to quit work to care for the child and as a result, their other children's needs are deferred with mounting expenses and loss of income dramatically draining their finances. 1 in 5 families who receive a pediatric cancer diagnosis are already living in poverty. Assistance requests have doubled each year and grown exponentially since the program's inception. Increased funding will allow us to fulfill additional requests and make an impact on more families during their toughest time. We are proud to have helped over 480 families since the program's inception in 20

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	650,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	850,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	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	1,500,000	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? 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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Runway to Hope typically hosts an annual gala that raises over \$1 million to support our operations and programmatic costs. This gala has been canceled the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional sources of funding include individual and corporate contributions.

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.

US Small Business Administration PPP 1 Loan: - \$20,582 - Forgiven, used for payroll expenses through the pandemic.
 US Small Business Administration PPP2 Loan: \$28,426.79 - Forgiven, used for payroll expenses through the pandemic.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Portion of Executive Director, Director of Operations and Program Director of Families	180,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Direct Emergency Financial Assistance to children and their families who are battling pediatric cancer in the Central Florida community. Purchase of a vehicle for program services, including grocery delivery.	350,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	3 FTE: Administrative & Program Support - Salaries & Benefits	120,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Purchase of a Building	850,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The purpose of these funds is to aid Runway to Hope in purchasing a building. We have been fortunate to start and flourish in a shared office space that has been donated for ten years. We anticipate losing that space in the very near future. As such, through donations we have been blessed to not having to pay rent or a mortgage but that won't continue. We now have been faced with limited parking in downtown Orlando, excessive parking fees, and limited space to expand our increased programming needs which has been especially difficult with Covid's limitation on donated resources. A new work home will allow us to reallocate these dollars and provide services to our pediatric cancer community. Additionally, funds will be used to provide direct emergency financial assistance to our children and families battling pediatric cancer.

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



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Cancer care goes beyond the walls of doctors' offices and hospitals. There is a tremendous need and lacking in the community for counseling and therapy for these children and families. Children dealing with self-esteem issues often because of disfigurement caused by operations, bloated bodies caused by chemo and radiation, hair loss, limbs being crippled, speech impediments, blindness, and a host of other medical consequences that childhood cancer causes. Many develop PTSD responses to needles, doctors, hospitals, and learning that they are going in for yet another surgery. The families are often financially devastated as one parent usually is not working. A Counseling and Family Resource Center will massively help these families. This is in addition to our being able to expand our grocery delivery program. Providing families healthy, nutritious, and affordable food and meals is an essential task. A new facility will allow us to better serve our families.

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

Direct Pediatric Cancer support ranging from direct emergency financial assistance, counseling services, food pantry access, as well as resource center access in order to cultivate a community for our children and families battling pediatric cancer.

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

The target population is the Central Florida pediatric cancer population. There are approximately 900 patients in active treatment at our three local children's hospitals. If the average family is four people, this is approximately 3,600 individuals directly served through this programming because a pediatric cancer diagnosis effects and impacts the whole family.

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

The expected outcome of this project is for families battling pediatric cancer to have and obtain a sense of security and relief in coming through Runway to Hope. Our families will be able to receive licensed clinical therapy free of charge and the organization will be able to triple the amount of grocery deliveries being made each month. The purchase of a building will not only physically expand our space, but will expand our reach and services to the many deserving children and families. The licensed clinical social worker will offer counseling to 175 children and their immediate family members affected by a pediatric cancer diagnosis within the first year of hire. We will continue to measure the impact by surveying the families, statistical and comparative analysis on a month to month basis regarding services and expenditures, and maintaining ongoing communication with our community partners as to stay atop of the needs of our pediatric cancer community.

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?

We donate immense time, services, and resources. We double and triple duty to cut costs whenever and wherever possible. Our active co-founder has taken zero by way of salary over the last decade and she won't even allow us to reimburse her for out-of-pocket expenses. We will be excellent guardians of any and all grant money. For purposes of a response, if we do not follow deliverable or performance guidelines, we should be restricted from applying ever again and publicly chided. It wouldn't and won't happen. We find little more despicable than individuals using charitable funds for their own gain. Ours is a mission that comes from the heart...living by the motto of, "To those who much is given, much is expected".

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