



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1507

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Problem: Children ages 0-3 are the largest age group of maltreated children being removed from their homes, and they stay in foster care longer than other age groups. Early maltreatment is toxic to the developing brain, especially in the critical first 1,000 days of life when 80% of the brain is developed. Stable, early, nurturing relationships can repair and “hard-wire” brain pathways for lifelong mental health.

Solution: Early Childhood Court (ECC) is a problem-solving court docket designed to improve outcomes for abused and neglected children ages 0-3 through an integrated treatment of intensive child/parent therapy, frequent visitation, developmental supports, utilization of trauma-informed judges, and monthly family team meetings and court hearings.

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	320,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>320,000</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)	320,000	77%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	77,500	19%
Other	15,384	4%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023</b>	<b>412,884</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?  Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	250,000	3152	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.

Currently, County governments are also funding some of the project in Manatee and Sarasota counties. The agency continues to submit grants, fund raise, and seek additional funding sources.



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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.**

PPP funding received last FY= \$483,974. All used to support all agency program staff salaries.

**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	CEO/COO	11,758
Other Salary and Benefits	CFO, HR, Payroll, accts. payable/receives	12,815
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	50% Program Director, 50% Asst. Program Director 100% Child Welfare Case Manager 100% licensed mental health clinician 50% family advocate, 100% community coordinator, 25% MH director	278,242
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Operating supplies, IT, Support, Telephones, Insurance, Travel (Class A and B), Training, Client Assistance	17,185
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>320,000</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

Children ages birth to five in foster care in Sarasota and DeSoto counties will achieve permanency more quickly than those not enrolled in ECC. Data between 2014-2019 shows permanency through reunification occurred approximately 8.5 months quicker than non-ECC children). Fewer children will return to care. (22 ECC; 36 non-ECC). The parent/child relationship will improve as well as child well-being. Parents rated their satisfaction with ECC as high to very high.

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

Intensive child welfare case management activities, frequent child-parent psychotherapy, frequent (3-4x/week) parent/child visitation, transportation, monthly family team meetings, monthly court appearances

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

Case management services, child-parent psychotherapy, therapeutic consultation with foster parents, teacher, other caregivers, child/foster parent transportation, supervised visitation.

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

Children ages birth to five in foster care. Approximately 20 children/families will be served in Sarasota County and 10 in DeSoto county.

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



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All children enrolled will be referred to Early Steps for developmental evaluation if developmental screens indicate a developmental delay. (tracked by case manager)  
Children enrolled in ECC will achieve permanency (reunification, permanent guardianship, adoption) more quickly than those not enrolled in ECC. Fewer children enrolled in ECC will return to care once permanency achieved. (DCF data base)  
Child will resolve incurred trauma and improve emotional skills. Parents will resolve underlying trauma and improve parent/child relationship. (therapist will provide pre/post scores on the parent/child relationship scale and the DECA.)

**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?**

Performance Outcomes are clearly stated in current CBC contract with penalties for failure to meet deliverables or performance measures, up to and including, termination of the contract.

**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