



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1826

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Using one toll-free helpline, eligible veterans statewide can immediately get an appointment to speak with an experienced attorney regarding civil legal matters.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	85%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	127,593	15%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	877,593	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	500,000	567A	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.

If state funds not available, some combination of LSC, local, and donations would be used but most of this funding has income restrictions which could impact client eligibility.

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.



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- PPP Loan - \$1,624,200.00 - Personnel Costs and Rent in 2020
- LSC Telework - \$17,753.77 - Laptops and accessories, phone power cords (Remote Work) (2020)
- LSC COVID-19 - \$245,145 awarded, actual spent = \$220,253.36 - Laptops/accessories, client services, PPE equipment/supplies, etc (2020-2021)
- Senior Connection Center - \$160,964 - Title III CARES Act funding - client services Hillsborough (2020-2021)

(see attachment for additional assistance received)

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Team Leader	89,700
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	5 full-time attorneys, 1 full-time administrative support, 1 part-time administrative support, 1 part-time screener	420,300
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	1.5 attorney full-time equivalent, subcontract - Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) 1.5 attorney full-time equivalent, subcontract - Legal Services of North Florida (LSNF)	240,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

12. Program Performance

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

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline (VLH) attorneys will provide direct advice and assistance to low-income veterans over the phone, schedule appointments for extended services with full-time attorneys who focus solely on veterans and coordinate referrals to partners throughout the State of Florida. This VLH will provide access to services for a population that would not otherwise have access to legal advice and representation.

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

Legal advice, representation and referral to other services.

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

Legal advice, representation and referral to other services.

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

Low-income veterans and their family members throughout the State of Florida.

From January 2020 through June 2020, we received a total of 1,748 calls, or an average of 291 per month. And in 2021, our numbers continue to grow. From January 2021 through June 2021, the total calls were 2,172, for a monthly average of 362.



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

Access to legal advice and assistance at no cost to eligible veterans. Case management software will track the number of clients served, level of service, outcomes and more.

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?

No reimbursement if a failure to deliver.

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