



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2000

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The World Health Organization provides studies that have shown that vision impairment reduces quality of life due to isolation, anxiety, fear, and depression; poor mental health is a cause of worsening vision impairment; and that seniors who are visually impaired experience a greater number of falls, hip fractures, and a higher rate of mortality compared to their sighted peers. The program is tailored to older adults with disabilities to provide a holistic, person-centric approach to care.

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	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	300,000	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	300,000	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?** No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Yes



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Two PPP loans for \$140,000 was received to cover funding shortages during the pandemic along with \$3,650.70 in CARES money from Pasco County.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director (partial salary) - \$9,500	9,500
Other Salary and Benefits	Fringe Benefits is comprised of FICA, SUTA, COBRA, Retirement and Workers Compensation. The calculation is based on the requested amount multiplied by the associated percentage or dollar figure that LVIB is currently paying for each position.	2,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	This item includes general office supplies, computers, printers, equipment, and other administrative items.	2,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted services includes the portion of programming included in the annual audit of the agency. It also includes IT services, phone and telecommunications, accounting fees and other smaller miscellaneous contracted services or professional fees.	16,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Therapeutic Client Specialist (1 FTE) - \$45,000 + benefits (see description of benefits above) Transportation Specialists (3 PT) - \$33,000 + benefits Independent Living Instructors (2 FTE) - \$58,000 + benefits Orientation & Mobility Instructor (1 FTE) - 15% of current pay - \$7,000 + benefits	181,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Supplies will include, but are not limited to, training materials, mental health aids, transportation and vehicle equipment, as well as magnification equipment.	80,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Training will be focused around building the skills of Therapeutic Client Specialists. Remaining funds will help train staff in mental health topics, magnification technology updates and assistive technology changes.	8,500
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000

12. Program Performance

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

The World Health Organization provides studies that have shown that vision impairment reduces quality of life due to isolation, anxiety, fear, and depression; poor mental health is a cause of worsening vision impairment; and that seniors who are visually impaired experience a greater number of falls, hip fractures, and a higher rate of mortality compared to their sighted peers. The program is tailored to older adults with disabilities to provide a holistic, person-centric approach to care.

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

Lighthouse will collaborate with other 501c3's that specialize in mental health, to add into the current curriculum used for Older Blind people. Classes and curriculum will be tailored to client individual needs and goals as determined during their initial assessment. Additional resources will be used or brought in based on the needs of the clients.

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



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The program is designed to empower clients to live more independently in their home and communities with a focus on improved mental health. This is done through independent living classes, orientation and mobility training and assistive technology trainings with curriculums focused around clients' physical, cognitive, leisure, social, psychological and emotional well-being.

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

The target population of the program are residents of Pasco, Hernando and Citrus counties over the age of 65 with blindness or significant visual impairments. 250 clients in this target population are expected to be served during the 2022-23 Fiscal Year. This has the potential to grow, especially during the isolation of a pandemic, the depression of vision loss and the growing senior population.

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

85% of clients served will demonstrate improved mental well-being, improved overall feelings of happiness, and reduced social isolation or feelings of loneliness. As well as 85% of clients served will demonstrate improved abilities to care for themselves and their families at home and in the community. This is determined using a Comprehensive Functional Assessment before and after each program service with each client. It is also determined through program surveys conducted at the end of each portion of the program.

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?

Should all funding not be spent on budgeted items necessary to support the number of clients receiving program services, the portion unspent 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.

No fixed capital outlay funding is requested. Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind owns the facility in which services are rendered.



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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