



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2142

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

This program will provide support to foster children in Out-of-Home Care by engaging community volunteers to serve as mentors while providing transportation services. The goal is to add resources to help children in foster care attend multiple activities which include, but are not limited to: court-ordered visitation sessions with family members, doctor appointments, therapies, extracurricular activities, and more. At risk children will benefit by the guidance of a relational caring adult while the volunteer support provided will help reduce the workloads of child welfare workers.

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	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	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	250,000	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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2142

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

\$13,543 Paycheck Protection Program loan. It was used for payroll costs. The total loan was forgiven by the SBA.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Project Head (30% program allocation)	27,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Local travel expenses.	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Project Coordinators (2) Administrative Assistant (1)	135,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Local travel expenses, outreach materials, and insurance costs.	21,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Training curriculum development and video production. Volunteer background screening services and technology development.	62,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

12. Program Performance

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

Increase the number of children in foster care who successfully attend multiple activities which include, but are not limited to: court-ordered visitation sessions with family members, doctor appointments, therapies, extracurricular activities, and more. The increase in volunteer engagement will reduce the amounts of transportation services normally performed by child welfare workers. This increase will create work task relief for child welfare workers. In addition, the guidance and support provided by the mentor volunteers increase opportunities for children in foster care to develop stable and committed relationship with supportive adults.

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

We will conduct a recruitment campaign within our existing network of local churches and throughout the general community to secure volunteers to meet the transportation / mentor needs of children in foster care. Background screening and clearances will be conducted on each volunteer and performed in partnership with the existing contracted CBC partner. We will provide training to every volunteer to maximize results and will provide ongoing coaching support to each volunteer. Volunteer availability and service opportunities will be communicated and managed within the CarePortal technology platform, which is a DCF approved service and partner with the Governor's Faith and Community Based Initiative and the Department of Children and Families.

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

Children in foster care will receive transportation services and opportunities to develop stable and committed relationships with supportive adults. Citizens will be provided with training and support to successfully serve as volunteer mentors.

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

The target population is children who are placed in DCF's Out-of-Home Care within the counties of Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Polk, Hardee, and Highlands. We expect to engage 200 volunteers to serve 800 children and 500 adults.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2142

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

Benefiting from this project will be Florida families and children in the foster Out-of-Home Care system; it will also benefit workers in the Community Based Care agencies within the specified counties. Outcomes will be measure by the number of volunteers engaged, the number of children served, the number of healthy relationships developed between the children and volunteers, and the reduction of work tasks realized by the child welfare employees.

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 will work with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) during the year to ensure the current funding meets the required goals of the contract and brings value back to Floridians. Funding could be reduced or withheld as a penalty in the event the deliverables or performance measures are not met.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2142

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