



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1084

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Improve Peace River Center's aging information technology infrastructure, connectivity and cybersecurity. Implementing recommendations to address inefficiencies in the company's information systems due to aging equipment. Improvements include transitioning systems to cloud based operations, increased cybersecurity through Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) software and configuring a more secure network and upgrade of our phone system.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	821,516
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	821,516

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	821,516	94%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	50,000	6%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	871,516	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.

Paycheck Protection Program funds of \$3,655,580 was used to pay for salary expenses of staff. Funding of \$157,466 was also provided by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services for lost program service revenues.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The acquisition of information technology and phone system infrastructure hardware and services to strengthen connectivity and cybersecurity. To include installation, configuration, and integration costs. This transition will allow Peace River Center to operate with less network interruption and more productive uptime in a more secure environment.	821,516
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		821,516

14. Program Performance

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



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Peace River Center has experienced a substantial amount of downtime due to information technology infrastructure inefficiencies and spamming. Lack of proper equipment and network instability have also caused telephone communication downtime. This causes major disruption to client services and business administration. The new infrastructure will allow Peace River Center to operate with less downtime and disruption to our clients.

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

With these funds, Peace River Center will be able to better serve our clients through crisis support, our various hotlines for crisis and domestic violence, connectivity to our cloud based clinical information system, as well as continue to offer telehealth via Zoom.

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

Peace River Center has three 24-hour hotlines for citizens to utilize when they are experiencing a mental health crisis or looking for assistance with domestic violence and sexual assault. Improving the reliability and security of the information technology infrastructure ensures the safety and confidentiality of behavioral health engagement allowing us to provide services more effectively and efficiently.

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

Peace River Center serves individuals of all ages who are in crisis or require follow up from a recent crisis situation. Population benefitting from these IT improvements include all PRC clients, including persons with poor mental health, substance abuse problems, at risk youth, victims of domestic violence and sexual assault victims. More than 23,000 constituents in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties would be better served with an improved IT infrastructure.

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

Peace River Center will provide efficient and effective mental health care and increase mental health crisis support, as well as reduce Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) admissions. Measure the stability and uptime of our information technology platforms that manage client appointments, registration and data. Additionally, we will measure the number of telehealth appointments conducted and mental health services provided.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables outlined in this request would result in the return of funds.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number