



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1151

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The objective of the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, a division of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind, is to provide comprehensive eye examinations with dilation and prescription eyeglasses, when required, for eligible children throughout the State of Florida to help them succeed academically and improve their overall quality of life. Services are provided at no cost to the families.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

**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)	1,000,000	35%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	750,000	27%
Local	437,102	16%
Other	609,500	22%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>2,796,602</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	750,000	1,000,000	451	No

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**
- b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**

State funding is leveraged by \$1,046,602, primarily made up of grants and other fundraising activities such as events and requests for private donations. Major funders that support Heiken are The Children's Trust, CSC of Broward, Batchelor Foundation, AD Henderson Foundation, and JT McDonald Foundation.

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



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No

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

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Prorated portion of Executive salary and benefits	13,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Prorated portion of Administrative staff	76,960
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	General Insurance, Audit Fees, General Office Supplies, Computers, etc.	14,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Prorated portion of facilities and public relations	27,040
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	7.9 Full Time Equivalent plus benefits (20%) including Manager of Heiken Program, Optometric Technicians, Program Coordinators, and Data Entry Staff.	325,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mobile Unit expenses and Vision Examination Supplies	98,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Optometrists and Opticians	446,000
<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>1,000,000</b>

### 14. Program Performance

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



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The goal of the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program is to assure that all financially disadvantaged schoolchildren have access to a comprehensive eye examination including dilation and glasses, if required, to ensure academic success. Following the Florida Statute which sets standards of care, the Program provides an eye examination with dilation so that underlying medical conditions can be diagnosed and appropriate medical referrals made. Prescription glasses are provided. These services are offered at no cost Statewide on-site at schools via our four mobile eye clinics.

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

In 2010, the Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, LLC, a division of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., was registered with the State of Florida, expanding vision health services to low-income children Statewide. In the 2021-2022 school year, leveraging FDOH funding with other private funding, 14,923 low-income schoolchildren received a dilated exam and 9,625 received prescription glasses. In the 2022-2023 school year, Heiken expects to receive about 40,000 requests for services, since we are the only approved vendor for vision services.

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

With current year Florida Department of Health funding, our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program will continue its eye wellness program Statewide and will provide 16,302 comprehensive diagnostic eye examinations and prescription eyeglasses to disadvantaged children at no cost to the child. Replacement glasses are provided under warranty for 6 months to all eligible students as well.

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

In 2022-2023, with the requested \$1,750,000 Florida Heiken will be able to provide approximately 9,700 exams and over 16,000 exams with leveraged funding. Florida Heiken frequently receives letters and testimonials from grateful children and school personnel, documenting our program's impact on individual lives.

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

The Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program has been audited for the past 12 years by the Florida Department of Health without any significant findings. The 2021-2022 measures used are as follows: Results included Mobile visit Satisfaction Survey requested from every Site Coordinator, questions included: •Did you have any difficulty scheduling your school visit? No: 82/84 = 98% • Were you satisfied with the overall scheduling process? Yes: 81/84 = 96% •Did the IVP team arrive at your school by the scheduled time? Yes: 74/84 = 88% • Did the exams begin within one hour from arrival? Yes: 84/84 = 100% •Were the exams finished by the end of the school day? Yes: 83/84 = 99% •Were all the students in attendance able to be seen? Yes: 81/84 = 96%. Of the 1,500 families contacted in a 2020 market research survey: • Have you noticed any improvements in how your child is doing with school? Yes 77% • Did you find this program to be valuable? Yes 96%

**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?**

Contracting agency will not bill State for ineligible services provided. FDOH Monitoring has found no issues.

**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



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- 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**

#### 17. Lobbyist Contact Information

**a. Name**

**b. Firm Name**

**c. E-mail Address**

**d. Phone Number**