



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1593

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

4. Project/Program Description

Pace Center for Girls is a nationally recognized proven early intervention model that prevents girls from dropping out of school, becoming victims of human trafficking, or entering the juvenile justice system. Through a network of 21 Pace Centers and 16 Pace Reach programs across Florida, Pace works with more than 3,500 middle- and high-school aged girls annually. The Pace model provides comprehensive wrap around social services, academic services with daily academic instruction, school-to-work readiness skills development and a year of after-care. Pace Reach provides the wrap-around social services with the academics provided by the girls home school. To ensure Pace can recruit and retain highly qualified counselors and therapists to address mental and behavioral health challenges and support success in the classroom, Pace is requesting \$2,545,000 recurring dollars to bring 280 direct service staff to market salaries.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	2,545,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	2,545,000

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)	2,545,000	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 2023-2024	2,545,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2022-23	22,662,249	1,269,760	1184	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.

Pace is requesting the \$2.545 million increase as recurring funding to recruit and retain high quality staff



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

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

\$386,131.29 total received to date for several Pace Centers to update technology for girls and staff, and to provide mental health services.

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	Market adjustment for 280 DJJ funded direct care staff (includes taxes and benefits)	2,545,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
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)		2,545,000

14. Program Performance

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



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To attract and retain highly qualified staff, funds will be used to supplement 280 direct care staff salaries, bringing them to market rate by increasing the daily rate per slot for Pace Centers and for Pace Reach Counseling Services. The DJJ daily rate per slot for Pace Centers and Pace Reach covers all social service costs, including mental health counseling, therapeutic services, life-skills development, and case management for at-risk girls and their families.

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

Highly qualified staff will provide comprehensive wrap-around social services including individual assessments, case management, individual trauma informed cognitive behavioral counseling and therapy, group counseling and therapy, Spirited Girls! Life skills curriculum, and family case management. Once a girl transitions from Pace she receives a minimum of one-year of follow-up services and after care.

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

Comprehensive wrap around social services and the full academic school day are provided for girls at risk of delinquency through Pace Center for Girls. Case management for the girls family is also provided to ensure a stable home environment. Prevention and early intervention services for girls results in better community outcomes, a decrease in systems involvement and ultimately a cost savings to taxpayers.

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

Over 3,500 females ages 11-17 statewide who are at risk of juvenile justice system involvement and dropping out of school. The girls' families benefit from Pace both indirectly and through family engagement, home visits and counseling. The general public benefits through increased public safety.

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

Short term outcomes include 1) maintaining attendance and being enrolled in school; 2) advancing grade levels; 3) increase in self-efficacy and pro-social coping skills; 3) reduction in risk behaviors. Long term outcomes include 1) high school graduation and enrollment in post-secondary education; 2) obtaining employment; 3) no involvement in the criminal justice system; 4: decreased economic dependency. Data measurements include number of girls served, dosage of services and outcome data on the effectiveness or quality of services provided to measure outcomes. Outcome data includes the percent of girls that increase their academic performance as measured through credits earned, report card, grade advancement, graduation or obtaining a GED. Outcomes for FY 2021-22 include the following: 8 in 10 girls improved academically as a result of Pace; 8 in 10 girls improve relationships.

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?

Our current contract with DJJ outlines penalties for failing to meet deliverables and financial penalties may be incurred.

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



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- 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