



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2968

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Provide organizational infrastructure to deliver direct services (community development, social support, educational webinars, mentoring and leadership) to widows in the state of Florida. Giving passion-driven individuals in our community the true capacity and resources to exponentially grow our impact and work, and remove the barriers to accomplishing our mission. Active response to acute needs enables Modern Widows Club to respond to and solve cascading primary and secondary losses for widows.

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	25,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	25,000

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)	25,000	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	25,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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.

There is sparse in the area of widow support locally or statewide. Unable to answer.

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



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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
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Leadership for our nonprofit organization to maximize sustainability.	25,000
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		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)		25,000

14. Program Performance

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

Organizational infrastructure to deliver direct services to widows in the state of Florida. Giving passion-driven individuals in our community the true capacity and resources to exponentially grow our impact and work, and remove the barriers to accomplishing our mission. Active response to acute needs enables Modern Widows Club to respond to and solve cascading primary and secondary problems for widows

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



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Organizational infrastructure, sustainability and leadership to deliver direct services which include community development, social support, educational webinars, mentoring and leadership.

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

Widows are marginalized, stigmatized, unsupported, and unmeasured. Modern Widows Club (MWC) envisions a world where every widow is valued as a human being and recognized as a vital force in their family, community, and work life. Our research shows that widowhood is an evolutionary process encompassing four distinct phases on a pathway, with no fixed timeline. We call these phases Hope, Heal, Grow, and Lead.

Our mission is to help every widow thrive on this pathway by removing access barriers to effective, life-altering, and life-saving resources, all backed by research data. By ensuring access for this unseen, underserved population, passion-driven individuals have the ability to exponentially move from grief to growth. Our innovative “attachment” solutions address “detachment” problems, resulting in consequential and far-reaching positive outcomes. We work to bring long-overdue awareness to the physical and mental health crises faced by every widow.

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

Florida widows are currently statistically at 914K in population. Originally we served as a small grassroots community mentoring and support organization, beginning in 2011 as a two-person group operating out of the living room of our founder. During the earlier years of our organization’s existence, we did not have the capacity or data tracking tools to accurately count the annual number of services our staff and volunteers were providing to widows around the country. Beginning in 2020, as our organization continued to organically evolve into a larger entity with increased capacity, we were able to implement effective systems to track the number of direct services provided each year.

In 2020, we provided 10,000 direct services to widows. In 2021, that number rose to 16,000. In 2022, we provided 193,000 direct services to widows. We project that by the end of 2026, our cumulative 7-year total (2020–2026) for direct services provided to widows will exceed 2.1 million.

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

In our most recent impact measurement (12/22), we surveyed 802 widows about the typically unseen and unsupported emotional impacts of widowhood, first from the perspective of thinking back to the time after they were widowed, but before they found MWC. Widows were then asked to answer the identical questions, but from their current perspective, after participating in MWC programs.

The outcomes are eye-opening.

After finding MWC, beneficiaries experienced an increase of:

- 1,540% in almost always feeling happy.
- 727% in almost always feeling confident.
- 352% in almost always having interest in the future.
- 340% in almost always feeling a sense of purpose.
- 276% in almost always having interest in their health.

After finding MWC, beneficiaries experienced a decrease of:

- 95% in almost always feeling fearful.
- 94% in almost always feeling lonely.
- 94% in almost always feeling overwhelmed.
- 94% in almost always feeling isolated.
- 90% in almost always feeling depression

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?

Return the monies.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name



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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)
- 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