



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1144

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

4. Project/Program Description

American Humane Society's first Sanctuary will serve as a humane home to dozens of animals in need. Through our Pups4Patriots program, we will specially train service dogs on-site for wounded warriors and engage local volunteers to help prepare the dogs in training. The multi-purpose training room will serve as the on-site educational classroom. Opportunities will be provided for qualified veterans and first responders to receive a PTSD service dog at no cost, and opportunities will be provided for Florida citizens to volunteer to help with dog training and care, foster a puppy, and serve the local community as advocates.

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

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	950,000
Total State Funds Requested	950,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	950,000	19%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	4,050,000	81%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	5,000,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. **Is future-year 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.
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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

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

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

We will utilize the organization's annual unrestricted and restricted fundraising to support the ongoing operations and maintenance.

11. 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.

The American Humane Society is the owner of the facility and would receive the fixed capital outlay funding.

12. 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		
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	Design/Architecture/Engineering/Land Planning and Improvements/Construction/Renovation of American Humane Sanctuary that includes dog kennels and a multi-species barn.	950,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		950,000

13. Program Performance

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



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Funds raised will support the construction of American Humane Society's first state-of-the-art dog kennel and versatile training facilities at the Sanctuary in Florida. This Sanctuary is dedicated to providing specially trained service dogs to military veterans and first responders in the state. The involvement of local volunteers will play a crucial role in assisting with dog training and care, ultimately benefiting Florida veterans and first responders by offering them the scientifically proven support and companionship of these service dogs.

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

The groundbreaking Sanctuary in Florida will provide a loving home to numerous animals in need. Within this Sanctuary, the Pups4Patriots program will specialize in training service dogs for wounded warriors. Volunteers will play a crucial role in assisting with the preparation and care of the dogs in training and sharing our message in the community. The multi-purpose training room will serve as an onsite classroom dedicated to educating the public and wounded warriors on our Pups4Patriots program and other American Humane Society programs.

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

Qualified veterans and first responders in Florida will have the opportunity to receive a PTSD service dog, which can cost over \$30,000 each, at no cost to the recipient, through the Pups4Patriots program. Additionally, Florida citizens will have the chance to volunteer in dog training and care, foster a puppy, and contribute to the community through interactions with nature and animals. Our site will also educate the community on invisible injuries and advocate for ADA requirements with local businesses regarding service dogs.

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

The program will specifically serve veterans and retired first responders in Florida who are diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or Traumatic Brain injury. These individuals will have the chance to receive trained service dogs at no cost. Furthermore, members of the general public and students in Florida will be able to visit our on-site education classroom and volunteer to assist with dog training and care. The program aims to serve 200-400 individuals in the local community in the first year alone.

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

Veterans and first responders who participate in the program will gain improved PTSD symptom management and mental health, as measured by administration of the PCL-5 and self-reports. Our selective process has resulted in a low attrition rate and many successful handler/dog pairings lasting over 5 years. Florida volunteers and community members who participate in the mission of helping animals and military veterans/first responders will also experience positive impact and satisfaction in giving back, as measured by volunteer surveys.

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 in the contract?

We will return the funding.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

- Yes, Applied



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- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

18. 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



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Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.