



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1289

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

To provide practical solutions to isolation among seniors in Miami-Dade through social interventions involving the arts, literacy, and technology that foster social bonds, resilience, and independence. The program includes art/creative activities, cultural outings, intergenerational workshops, wellness coaching and referrals to social agencies, complementing mental health services while enhancing community engagement and creative expression to improve seniors' well-being and overall health.

The "Younger at Arts (YA!) Program" will combat social isolation among seniors in Miami-Dade by leveraging arts, literacy, and technology as tools to foster meaningful social connections and enhance well-being. Through a robust curriculum of creative arts workshops, cultural outings, intergenerational projects, wellness coaching, and digital literacy training, the program creates opportunities for self-expression, community engagement, and personal growth.

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

State Agency contacted? No Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	399,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	399,000

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)	399,000	61%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	197,800	31%
Other	50,000	8%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	646,800	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No Yes

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?** No Yes

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1289

This is a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year. We expect to need two additional years of State support for this program. The organization is actively pursuing various funding opportunities to secure future support and ensure the program's sustainability.

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)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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

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.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	The full time Executive Director oversees the YA! program's administration, programs, and strategy, while leading fundraising, marketing, and community outreach efforts. Responsible for strategic planning, grant compliance, and organizational leadership, the Executive Director ensures the program's success in enhancing seniors' well-being, to mitigate social isolation among seniors.	62,000
Other Salary and Benefits	A full time Program Coordinator manages the organization's federal, state, and local programs, coordinating contracted services, specialized offerings, and logistical support for this initiative.	39,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	*Facility costs, arts, and technology supplies. *Equipment: Computers and specialized software, audio/visual gear for workshops. *Travel: Transportation for senior participants. *Supplies: Art materials, office equipment, program resources *Other: Outreach, marketing, evaluation, indirect costs.	32,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	The YA! Program Curricula Design role is instrumental in shaping the psycho social educational content and structure of the "Younger at Arts: Creating Social Connections" initiative. This role requires an individual with expertise in this kind of curricula development, an understanding of the arts, and a commitment to fostering social connections among seniors.	30,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	2 part-time facilitator staff with background checks for elder care, food safety certification, nutrition training, and extensive knowledge of community/federal assistance programs for adults.	58,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1289

Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Vehicle for program participants transportation, and related transportation program expenses. Occupancy and related expenses.	68,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	The program employs certified specialists including social workers, facilitators, IT, transport, and arts/crafts instructors to provide comprehensive direct and support services. The YA! Program will engage specialized consultants and contracted services to enhance the program's scope and ensure its alignment with best practices in senior engagement and arts-based social interventions.	110,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		399,000

13. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will be used to address social isolation among seniors in Miami-Dade by providing arts-based, educational, and technological interventions. The program aims to foster social bonds, enhance resilience, and support independence, leading to improved mental and physical well-being for this vulnerable population. Key goals include:- Reducing social isolation through interactive arts and cultural activities. -Enhancing community engagement by encouraging participation in group workshops, exhibitions, and intergenerational projects. -Improving physical and mental health by promoting active lifestyles, creative expression, and wellness coaching. -Building digital literacy skills to help seniors use technology confidently and safely for practical needs and social connectivity. -Creating a sustainable support network that integrates community resources and referrals for continued assistance. The program will directly benefit at least 400 seniors annually.

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

The requested funds will support a range of activities and services designed to reduce social isolation and enhance the well-being of seniors in Miami-Dade. These include: Arts and Cultural Classes: Over 400 hours of workshops in painting, music, theater, and creative writing to foster self-expression and skill development. Wellness and Life Coaching Workshops: 12 sessions focusing on wellbeing, nutrition, and strategies for building resilience. Intergenerational Projects: 2 collaborative initiatives connecting seniors with youth to bridge generational gaps and promote mutual learning. Cultural Outings: 4 trips to museums, art galleries, and performances, enriching cultural experiences while promoting physical activity. Art Exhibitions: 2 showcases for participants to display their work, encouraging community involvement and recognition. Personalized Wellness Coaching: 160 hours of one-on-one support tailored to individual needs, assistance accessing local resources.

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

The "Younger at Arts (YA!) Program" will deliver the following direct services to seniors in Miami-Dade: Creative Arts Education: Over 400 hours of hands-on arts and culture classes, including painting, music, creative writing, and theater, tailored to seniors' interests and abilities. Wellness Coaching Workshops: 12 group sessions focusing on physical health, nutrition, mental well-being, and strategies to overcome social isolation. Intergenerational Collaboration: 2 projects designed to connect seniors with younger generations, fostering shared learning and bridging generational divides. Cultural Engagement Activities: 4 cultural outings to museums, galleries, and live performances, providing opportunities for social interaction and physical activity. Artistic Showcase Opportunities: 2 exhibitions where participants can present their creative work, boosting self-esteem and community recognition. Personalized Wellness Support: 160 hours of individualized coaching.

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

The target population for the "Younger at Arts (YA!) Program" consists of seniors in Miami-Dade experiencing social isolation. Many of them are economically disadvantaged, and even food insecure. Some are dealing with poor mental or physical health or serious disabilities. This project prioritizes vulnerable individuals who benefit most from arts-based and wellness interventions, with a focus on fostering resilience, community engagement, and self-sufficiency. The program will directly benefit at least 400 seniors annually, providing them with a variety of services to improve their quality of life and strengthen social connections.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1289

be measured?

(YA!) program aims to reduce isolation among seniors in Miami-Dade while enhancing their overall well-being through arts, literacy, and technology-driven interventions. *Expected Benefits: Improved physical health (70% better mobility and reduced loneliness). *Enhanced mental health (75% experience improved mood and reduced anxiety). *Enriched cultural experiences (80% greater social engagement and satisfaction). *Improved education and digital skills (90% satisfaction with learning new skills and using technology). *Increased economic self-sufficiency (70% gain confidence in accessing on-line resources and opportunities). *Measurement: Surveys and Feedback: Pre- and post-program surveys assess health, skills, and satisfaction. *Attendance and Engagement: Tracking participation in activities and continued involvement. *Artistic Outputs: Completed projects and creative works as evidence of engagement. *Qualitative Assessments: Interviews and focus groups to gather insights.

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?

The suggested penalty for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures in the "Younger at Arts" program is the return of the allocated funds. This ensures accountability and proper use of resources dedicated to achieving the program's intended outcomes.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster?

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
- 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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1289

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
- 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.