



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1384

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

Walk Off Charities is a Jacksonville based non profit with a mission to provide opportunities, resources, and access to the game of baseball and softball for any youth that desires to learn or play. Through various programs, events, and activities we aim to give under-served youth opportunities they may not have had otherwise. With increasingly growing programs and needs, the purpose of requesting these funds is to allow us to expand our reach across northeast Florida to impact even more youth.

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	650,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	100,000
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	60%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	250,000	20%
Other	250,000	20%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,250,000	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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

10/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

10/01/2026

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

The project in mind is the total refurbishment of two baseball/softball fields at Forestview Park. We have a bid from a professional company to do the work and the ongoing maintenance would fall under the City of Jacksonville, along with our partner association using the facility. The Parks and Recreation department from the city has committed verbally to help maintain and fund for the necessary upkeep.

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.

City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Parks & Recreation Department. Walk Off Charities currently operates baseball and softball programs in 15 different local Jacksonville parks. In addition to that, Walk Off Charities fully operates the athletic fields at Fort Family Regional Park, so there is a close relationship, working to help offer youth access to events and programs all across the city.

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	Additional Staff Required: Full Time Positions: Manager of Programs, Field Maintenance Manager Part Time Positions: Program Coordinators (separated by area/territory covered)	200,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Programming Expenses - uniforms, safety equipment/gear (helmets, catcher's gear), baseball/softball equipment/supplies, travel costs for events, insurance for programs, purchase of 15 passenger van, purchase of field maintenance equipment/supplies.	450,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Park Project - Forestview Park - two complete field renovations (large field and small field). Currently not usable but needed for program growth to continue.	100,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

13. Program Performance

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

Walk Off Charities is a Jacksonville based non profit with a mission to provide opportunities, resources, and access to the game of baseball and softball for any youth that desires to learn or play. Through various programs, events, and activities we aim to give under-served youth opportunities they may not have had otherwise. With increasingly growing programs and needs, the purpose of requesting these funds is to allow us to expand our reach across northeast Florida to impact even more youth.

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

Youth baseball/softball programs including: 1) Clinics in partnerships with Title I Elementary Schools, 2) Camps for children during winter/summer break, 3) Leagues for youth to participate in a team sport, learning life-skills 4) Events for community wide engagement and support 5) Training & Exposure for serious student-athletes, 6) Field Refurbishment & Maintenance for parks in need.

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

A mix of direct services will be provided through this funding request and include: after school programming (Leagues and related activities include practices, games, and special events), physical education / special education (clinics engage youth during school hours, teaching them a new sport and skills related to that sport), park cleanup/revitalization for participating programs parks.

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

The program will serve over 800 students from preschool through college aged with mental and physical health needs and those residing in some of our most economically disadvantaged areas of Northeast Florida.

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

One of the main benefits of this project is the improvement of both the mental and physical well-being of those participants. Additionally, this program provides increased exposure to diverse cultural experiences through sporting activities. This will be measured in a variety of ways including pre and post program surveys as well as different motor skills assessment testing. This program also provides job opportunities within the local community that it serves as well as internship positions. By providing an opportunity for our youth to connect with mentors and coaches, this program serves as a diversion from criminal activity for those participants. This will be measured through local crime statistics and community 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?

The agency would forfeit the dollars received for this programming.

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):



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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
- 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)



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- 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.