



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1427

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Vision Is Priceless will bring essential vision healthcare services—including vision screenings, comprehensive eye exams, and prescription glasses—to children in Northeast Florida through our Sight in Schools Children's Vision Program. The overarching goal of our Sight in Schools Program is to eliminate treatable vision problems for students so they can have a better chance at success at school, and in life. Additionally, our school-based vision program helps ensure that all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, have access to vision care—a vital component of primary healthcare. This reducing disparities in academic performance and overall health outcomes, which can amplify long-lasting change in the community.

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	150,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>150,000</b>

**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)	150,000	31%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	50,000	10%
Local	0	0%
Other	283,901	59%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>483,901</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.**

We fund our programs through personal and foundation grants, as well as Board and individual giving, and special events fundraising.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1427

### 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director-Cheryl Stakes - oversees operations, ensures fiscal responsibility, and drives sustainability through funding, governance, and strategic planning. ED spends 25% of time in SIS program.	8,690
Other Salary and Benefits	Development Director - responsible for fund development, grants, special events, and donor cultivation, marketing and communications. Program Director- oversees day-to-day program operations, manages program staff, and develops and maintains relationships with partner doctors and community partners. PD spends 60% of time in SIS.	18,167
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Program Manager- Manages school partnerships and Sight In Schools Clinics. Program Specialist- Processes all paperwork and data entry for SIS clinics. Program Specialists (3)- Screening Program Coordinator- Manages logistics of SIS clinic glasses delivery	50,722
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Clinic Supplies, Internet/Phones, Website/Email, IT/Database Support, Mileage, Postage/Shipping Costs, Dues, Licenses/Fees, Business Insurance/Workers Comp, Mobile Clinic Fuel, Maintenance & Insurance.	21,921



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

**LFIR # 1427**

Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contract 1099 Optometrist- Through our Sight in Schools Program, our licensed optometrist provides comprehensive eye exams directly on school campuses using our Mobile Vision Clinic. 1099 Optician - Students choose frames, Optician carefully verifies each prescription, and the glasses are then delivered directly to the students.	50,500
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>150,000</b>

**13. Program Performance**

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

The Sight in Schools Children’s Vision Program brings vital vision healthcare services—including vision screenings, comprehensive eye exams, and prescription glasses—to children in Northeast FL. We work to eliminate treatable vision problems for students in Title 1 schools so they can have a better chance at success in school, and in life. Good vision is vital for academic, social, and emotional development. Untreated vision issues hinder learning and make navigating daily tasks challenging.

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

Our objectives for the Sight in Schools Program during the 2025-2026 year are to:

- Conduct 35,000 vision screenings for children, enabling the early detection of eye diseases and vision issues.
- Provide 2,500 comprehensive eye exams for K-12 students in Northeast Florida, with the goal of eliminating treatable vision problems.

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

Over 35,000 children will receive vision screenings, which are vital for the early detection of vision issues and eye diseases. Through our Sight in Schools Program, our licensed optometrist provides comprehensive eye exams directly on school campuses using our Mobile Vision Clinic. We target low-income K-12 students, with a focus on Duval and Clay counties, who otherwise go without vision care.

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

For our school-based eye exams, we focus on low-income K-12 students in Northeast Florida public schools (with a focus on Duval and Clay counties), who are at greater risk of missing out on essential eye care. Our target population for vision screenings includes children aged 3 to 18 in Northeast Florida (Duval, Baker, Clay, Nassau, and St. Johns counties). Annually, we provide screenings to over 35,000 children across the First Coast in preschools, child development centers, and private, and independent schools throughout Northeast Florida.

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

Addressing vision issues removes barriers to academic success, enabling students to reach their full potential and improving the effectiveness of efforts to boost grade-level reading proficiency. Higher academic achievement in school often leads to pursuing higher education, access to a wider range of career opportunities, and ultimately improving long-term health and socioeconomic prospects. We measure program impact by tracking screenings, results, follow-ups, eye exams, glasses prescribed, referrals, and clinics held, along with demographic data to target under served areas. Weekly reports monitor progress. Surveys conducted 90 days post-clinics and feedback from students and staff assess outcomes like improved behavior, confidence, and progress.

**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?**

In addition to contractual penalties, the contracting agency would not be eligible for future funding opportunity.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1427

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
- 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**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1427

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.*