

The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1433

1. Project Title Feeding Northeast Florida's Fresh Start Program 2. Senate Sponsor Clay Yarborough 3. Date of Request 2/12/2025 4. Project/Program Description In response to emerging community needs in Northeast and North Central Florida- nutritious, diet-specific charitable meals and additional workforce development opportunities-Feeding Northeast Florida (FNEFL) is building a commercial training kitchen. The kitchen will teach our neighbors re-entering the workforce critical culinary skills, while transforming food bank ingredients into healthy, medically-tailored meals for people experiencing food insecutivity. Upon completion of the program, students will feed to local industrial kitchen job opportunities, earning a living wage to provide economic stability for their families. 5. State Agency to receive requested funds State Agency contacted? No 6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Type of Funding Operating	4 5	reiest Title	Faadina Nauth	at Flavidala Facel	Ctant Draws		
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State (excluding the amount of this request)	T	Total State Funds Red	quested (from que	stion #6)	600,000	38%	
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If yes, provide the most recent instance: Fiscal Year	T	Total Project Costs f	for Fiscal Year 20	25-2026	1,600,000	100%	
9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.			•	_	No		
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a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.		(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		
b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.		-	-		No		
	b	o. Describe the sour	ce of funding tha	t can be used in	lieu of state funding.		



10. Status of Construction

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Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

a. What is the current phase of the project?								
Planning	Design	Construction	O N/A					
b. Is the project '	b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?							
c. What is the es	c. What is the estimated start date of construction? 05/01/2025							
d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 12/31/2025								
e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?								
FNEFL's Grants, Philanthropy, and Nutrition teams are designated to seek funding annually for the kitchen and the workforce development program. Additionally, the kitchen will enroll as a Food as Medicine site for reimbursement, generating it's own income, anticipated in FY2026.								

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.

For the next two years, the facility and land is owned by Feeding Northeast Florida Support Corp. in order to benefit from the New Market Tax Credit. After four years' time, the facility will move to the ownership of the Regional Food Bank of Northeast Florida, Inc.

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/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	The current 60' X 50' white room requires construction to build a commercial kitchen. Funds will be focused to build electrical, foundational, and plumbing infrastructure, as well as designing the components of a high-production kitchen space and training center that aligns with food safety standards.	600,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		

13. Program Performance

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



☐ Yes, Applied

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A commercial kitchen within the food bank will add healthy ready-to-eat meals to our list of services, while establishing the foundation for Food as Medicine support to +500 hunger-relief partners to address diet related health challenges. The workforce development program will lessen the gap between open culinary jobs and qualified candidates by training community members on specialized equipment, preparing them for key careers that earn a living wage. The kitchen is yet another approach to using food as a catalyst to uplift our communities.

h	What activities	and services wil	I be provided to	meet the intended	purpose of these funds
v	. vviiai aciivili c a	and services wii	I DE DI OVIGEG LO	micel life interioed	Dui Dose di lilese lulius

- 1-Plan and design kitchen layout and submit for permitting- IN PROCESS
- 2- Secure a contractor to spearhead construction- IN PROCESS
- 3-Renovate white space with electrical, plumbing, ventilation
- 4-With private funding, purchase kitchen equipment
- 5-Launch the kitchen immediately after construction is concluded, anticipated for Q3 2025.
- c. What direct services will be provided to citizens by the appropriation project?

A commercial kitchen will re-imagine bulk donated food that was destined for waste and purchased food into nutritionally balanced meals that are ready to heat and eat. After piloting initial services, meals will be medically-tailored and delivered to our neighbors (primarily seniors) who require diet-specific meal preparation assistance and charitable food. Partnering with Goodwill, the workforce development program will train community members re-entering the workforce with the culinary skills to secure back end jobs in commercial kitchens to earn a living wage.

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

Target populations include seniors facing low income, people with diet-related illnesses, economically disadvantaged families relying on charitable food, people who are developmentally and/or physically disabled and face mobility challenges, and people facing barriers to employment. With a fully operational commercial kitchen, we expect to create 3,500-4,000 meals per day to support approximately 8,000-10,000 individuals unduplicated. The workforce program will engage cohorts of students annually, with numbers to be determined.

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

Physical/Mental Health: 3,500-4,000 nutritious meals per day to people experiencing food insecurity Enhance economic self-sufficiency: back-end culinary job training Improve agricultural promotion: Rescue ~1.4M lbs. food/yr. to create healthy meals as a new service. Utilizing a summative evaluation design, FNEFL evaluates data from Oracle NetSuite business management platform to assess outcomes, successes, and a cost-benefit analysis, making adjustments as needed.

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?

Sh	nould the food bank fail to construct the commercial kitchen, the funds will be returned.
4. Is ti	his 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 infastructure)
b. Na	ame of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):



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☐ Yes, Received								
□ No	□ No							
☐ No, but intends t	□ No, but intends to apply							
a. If yes, provide th	ne FEMA project workshe	eet ID#:						
b. Provide the total	I project cost listed on th	ne FEMA project worksheet:						
16. Has the entity app	olied for or received state	e assistance for this project (other tha	in this request)?					
☐ Yes, Applied			, ,					
☐ Yes, Received								
, □ No								
☐ No, but intends t	to apply							
			on Balting Lange Bangarian and ad-					
a. If yes, specify the Commerce):	e program and state age	ency (ex. Local Government Emergend	y Bridge Loan, Department of					
17. Requester Contact			٦					
a. First Name	Susan	Last Name King]					
b. Organization	Feeding Northeast Florid	la]					
c. E-mail Address	sking@feedingnefl.org							
d. Phone Number	(904)513-1333	Ext.						
18. Recipient Contact	Information							
a. Organization	Feeding Northeast Florid	la						
b. Municipality and	d County Duval							
c. Organization Ty	pe							
□For Profit Entity								
☑Non Profit 501(d	c)(3)							
□Non Profit 501(d	c)(4)							
□Local Entity								
□University or Co	ollege							



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□Other (please specify)						
d. First Name	Susan	Last Name	King			
e. E-mail Address	e. E-mail Address sking@feedingnefl.org					
f. Phone Number	(904)513-1333	Ext.				
9. Lobbyist Contact Information						
a. Name	Christina Daly Brodeur					
b. Firm Name	Ballard Partners					
c. E-mail Address	christy@ballardpartners.com					
d. Phone Number	(850)577-0444					

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