



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1460

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Operation Giving Real Opportunities for Work (G.R.O.W.) supports adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for these individuals to develop additional life enrichment and job readiness skills to secure competitive, integrated employment. Operation GROW provides real-world work and volunteer experiences, classroom instruction, and individual feedback. The program can offer these supports through partnerships with local businesses and other resources.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	496,295
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	496,295

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)	496,295	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	496,295	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	496,688	246A	No

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

N/a

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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	30% Executive Director's salary	30,334
Other Salary and Benefits	30% of Operations Manager, Bookkeeper, and Administrative Assistant's salaries	47,322
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Workman's Comp fees and Administrative Costs	38,078
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Salaries of Program Coordinator and four Employment Coaches	226,638
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Upgraded including software, transportation and from job sites, and staff training, 30% of facility insurance, utilities, program supplies, maintenance and equipment leases. Also, establish inventory and equipment for two locations of Inspire Your Day Cafe.	133,723
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Dance, health and wellness, and art programs for participants. Behavioral analysts, medical and financial professionals as required.	20,200
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		496,295

13. Program Performance

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

Operation Giving Real Opportunities for Work (G.R.O.W.) supports adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing opportunities for these individuals to develop additional life enrichment and job readiness skills to secure competitive, integrated employment. Operation G.R.O.W. provides real-world work and volunteer experiences, classroom instruction, and individual feedback. The program can offer these supports through partnerships with local businesses and other resources.

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



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Operation G.R.O.W. provides classroom and hands-on instruction in continuing education such as reading and math skills. The instruction also includes travel education, and career training. The program is person centered and aims to provide education opportunities in topics that will help each individual grow their skills that will support their goals for employment in the community. In the last fiscal year, the program has measured a more than 90 percent increase in knowledge which has increased their readiness to secure competitive employment.

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

The program participants will have opportunities to attend classes, volunteer in the community, and practice their employment skills with partners in our community with the assistance of an employment coach. The participants will receive specific, individual feedback and support as they integrate into the community. Inspire has successfully placed and supported individuals in competitive employment settings with a 90% success rate. As a result, these individuals now have the opportunity to practice economic self sufficiency.

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

The target population is adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). We expect to enroll and maintain a minimum of twenty-five participants in Operation G.R.O.W. throughout the fiscal year. More than 85% of our program participants are Seminole County residents. Currently, in Seminole County, we are serving 70 out of 983 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Florida state average for number of individuals with intellectual disabilities is 60,405 total.

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

This program aims to improve mental and physical health, increase knowledge of transportation, enhance participant's economic self-sufficiency, create job opportunities, improve socialization and educational opportunities. Participants' engagement and comprehension of the subjects taught will be measured through regular and recurring assessments, number of participants who have secured employment, and through on-going documentation.

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 increments of financial consequences that shall apply must be based upon the severity of the noncompliance, nonperformance, or unacceptable performance. The financial consequences shall not exceed ten percent of the total project payments.

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



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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
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name

e. E-mail Address



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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.