



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1485

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Adoption-Share's Family-Match Application is a powerful, data-driven tool designed to empower child welfare professionals in making efficient and informed decisions. By helping identify the most suitable foster and adoptive families, it supports both family reunification efforts and permanent placement solutions for children in foster care. Family-Match leverages advanced compatibility matching for children awaiting adoption who do not yet have a family identified to adopt them. Additionally, it enhances the recruitment of foster and adoptive families, ensuring a meaningful and thoughtful approach to building stable, loving homes for children in need. With state funding, this program can significantly alleviate the strain on the foster care and juvenile justice systems, decreasing the likelihood of children aging out without a family and increasing their chances of becoming well-adjusted, productive members of society.

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	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	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	350,000	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	175,000	318A	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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1485

The Family-Match Application can be funded through federal funding through Title IV E of the Social Security Act which provides money to states for its diligent recruitment efforts. Family-Match qualifies as a tool DCF can utilize that meets diligent recruitment standards and is effective in helping legal orphans in the state of Florida achieve permanency through adoption.

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	Allocated wages and benefits for Regional Director managing the Family-Match Program in Florida.	70,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Allocated wages and benefits for executive leadership team to provide program oversight and program management support.	50,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Wages and benefits for Florida support positions. Family Coordinator dedicated to servicing Florida families by providing assistance and guidance through the onboarding, matching, placement, adoption and post-adoption process. Family Coordinator validates the eligibility of families with home study agencies. Agency Coordinator provides training and support to system users.	50,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Application hosting and infrastructure costs. User engagement activities to drive application use. Post-placement supports for adoptive families. Travel to all regions of state, including mileage reimbursement per IRS guidelines, reimbursements for overnight travel accommodations (hotel, car rental, air travel), and meals.	45,000



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1485

Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Data science and research support for ongoing analysis and program improvement. Software: assurance, security, application enhancements, user interface updates, and customizations. Ongoing technical support for all users through email and phone.	135,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funds will provide the Family-Match technology to help case workers achieve permanency for legal orphans in Florida. Family-Match promotes placement stability by assessing child-family relational fit, aiding agencies in selecting suitable families, and supporting families throughout the adoption process. This aligns with the state's interest in child well-being and reducing foster care numbers, benefiting the state through improved child welfare outcomes and reduced foster care costs.

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

Family-Match supports agencies by providing a centralized, data-driven tool to sustain various recruitment strategies and increasing the pool of foster/adoptive families. It also offers matching technology with a centralized repository of families, helping workers find the best placements based on critical data. These benefits lead to improved child welfare outcomes and reduced foster care costs.

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

Family-Match supports agencies by providing a centralized, data-driven tool to sustain various recruitment strategies and increasing the pool of foster/adoptive families. It also offers matching technology with a centralized repository of families, helping workers find the best placements based on critical data. These benefits lead to improved child welfare outcomes and reduced foster care costs. Likewise, Family-Match provides Florida families with a streamlined, compatibility-based matching process to connect with child welfare professionals from across the state, looking to recruit foster or adoptive families, or match children who are eligible for adoption with an adoptive family. Lastly, by offering services to both agencies and families, Family-Match helps children in Florida's foster care system with a goal of adoption by enabling caseworkers to identify, evaluate, and match with families that provide the best relational fit, fostering successful and lasting adoptions.

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

The target population served by Family-Match are children who have a goal of adoption, and no family identified to adopt them, hopeful adoptive families, and child welfare professionals. The population of children in foster care who have a goal of adoption are in excess of 800 across the state. These children have more complex medical, emotional, or cognitive needs, are older, and/or be part of a sibling set. Hopeful foster and adoptive families who are current and active total over 2200. Child welfare professionals across all circuits, CBCs, and supporting providers total over 450.

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

The expected outcome of the Family-Match project is to improve the quality of life for foster children by facilitating successful and stable adoptions. By equipping adoption workers with advanced technology, the program enables efficient and effective identification of adoptive families with the highest probability of achieving long-term, stable placements. Family-Match has demonstrated success in reducing time to match, increasing finalized adoptions for children considered hardest-to-place, and minimizing adoption disruptions. These outcomes lead to significant, long-term benefits, including improved physical and mental health, enhanced educational success, greater self-sufficiency, and reduced reliance on other state systems. The methodology for measuring these outcomes includes tracking the number of matches, placements, and finalized adoptions within the system. Additionally, the Florida Safe Families Network can be utilized to further analyze and quantify the programs impact.

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 Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1485

Adoption-Share's current contract with DCF (LJ217) stipulates six performance measures and corresponding penalties for failure to meet outcomes. Performance measures include but are not limited to the accessibility of the application, trainings, help desk support, and demonstrated increase of prospective adoptive parents for waiting children. Penalties range from \$400 to \$4,375.00 and are dependent on the performance measure. To date no penalty has been exercised as the org has met outcomes.

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):

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1485

d. Phone Number (912)222-8819 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 (912)222-8819 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.