



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1495

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Recovery Connections of Central Florida is a Recovery Community Organization, a non-profit that is locally governed by people in the recovery community. Recovery Connections offers services and resources that include multiple pathways to long-term sustainable recovery from substance use disorder (SUD). All services are provided by Certified Recovery Peer Specialists (CRPS), who have lived experience recovering from SUD. The CRPS team is uniquely positioned to encourage and provide hope, listen without judgment, and help people navigate the world of recovery.

Recovery Connections partners with community organizations to have CRPS team members on-site to provide mobile recovery support services to help people struggling with substance use issues. By meeting people where they are, the organization is breaking down barriers to care. From January - December 2024, the number of community partner locations grew from three to eleven, clearly demonstrating need and demand for services.

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	530,434
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	530,434

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)	530,434	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	530,434	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	525,000	378	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.



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In lieu of state funding, funds can be requested from other sources, including other government and private sector sources.

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	Salary and benefits for a Mobile Recovery Support Services Manager responsible for overseeing mobile recovery support services strategy, partnerships, and supervision of Certified Recovery Peer Specialists who are facilitating mobile recovery support services sessions, conducting outreach, and providing information and referrals.	89,905
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel within the four-county footprint for the Mobile Recovery Support Services Manager to travel to prospective and active community partner organizations. Technology, software, and supplies for Mobile Recovery Support Services Manager.	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries and benefits for seven full time Certified Recovery Specialists (CRPS) for 12 months. Our CRPS team members are the most critical component of our mobile recovery support services, using their lived experience to guide people on their recovery journey. The CRPS team facilitates mobile recovery support services sessions, conducts outreach, and provides information and referrals.	415,529
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Travel expenses for Certified Recovery Peer Specialists to active community partner organizations within the four-county footprint. Technology, software, materials and supplies for 1:1 recovery support services sessions, outreach, and information and referrals. Transportation services for program participants to locations and services that support their recovery.	20,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		530,434

13. Program Performance

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

Certified Recovery Peer Specialists (CRPS) will provide mobile recovery support services to help those who are uninsured and under-insured and struggling with substance use issues. With lived experience, the CRPS team is uniquely positioned to encourage and provide hope, listen without judgment, and help navigate a complex system of care. By partnering with community organizations and providing services on-site, we are reducing burden on under-resourced providers and removing barriers to care.

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

Mobile recovery support services will be provided by a CRPS on-site at community partner organizations within our four county footprint. Our CRPS team will facilitate recovery support services sessions (RSS), conduct outreach, and provide connections to critically needed resources through information and referrals (IR). The CRPS team uses their lived experience to encourage, support, and inspire.

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

At an initial RSS session, program participants will complete a Recovery Capital Scale assessment, which measures internal and external assets that contribute to recovery (ex. housing, employment, transportation). Participants identify goals to improve their Recovery Capital and create a Recovery Management Plan. Outreach spreads awareness of services. IR connects participants to resources.

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

The target population served by this project is people in Orange, Seminole, Osceola, and Brevard counties who are seeking recovery from substance use disorder (SUD). As SUD affects people from all backgrounds, the population includes elderly persons, persons with poor mental health, persons with poor physical health, jobless persons, economically disadvantaged persons, homeless, physically disabled, drug users (in health services), currently or formerly incarcerated persons, and drug offenders (in criminal justice). We expect to serve 401 - 800 people through this project.

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

Benefits or outcomes for individuals include improving physical health, improving mental health, enhancing specific individual's economic self-sufficiency, reducing recidivism, and reducing substance abuse. Coaching from Certified Recovery Peer Specialists helps individuals work towards self-determined goals included in an ongoing Recovery Management Plan. Outcomes are measured through the Recovery Capital Scale assessment, which measures internal and external assets used to initiate and sustain recovery. Goal is to increase a participant's Recovery Capital Scale by 25%.

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?

Deliverables will be measured regularly throughout the funding contract time period. If off track, Recovery Connections will proactively communicate and work with appropriate parties to course correct as needed.

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)



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- 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

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type



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- 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.