



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1589

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Lotus House Women's Shelter Education and Employment program delivers life-changing employment and educational support, training, services, referrals and internships/employment and job placement opportunities to high special needs homeless women and youth. Through this vital program, women and families benefit from a robust education and employment program that supports their successful exit outside of the shelter system, helping them to learn, grow, thrive and lead lives of greater opportunity for themselves and their families. Investment in this program enables the most vulnerable in our community to break the cycles of poverty and homelessness, contributing to the overall growth of our community.

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	Amount
Operating	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>200,000</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)	200,000	67%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	100,000	33%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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	100,000	200,000	125	Yes

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.

No other source of funding is available in the amount needed for the success of this program and the women and youth it serves.



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## 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits	Wages and Benefits for Program Director, Education and Employment Director, Education and Employment Coordinator, Culinary Educational Teacher; Culinary Educational Director.	175,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Materials and Supplies - uniforms, licenses, school supplies, office supplies etc. On-site client job training internship.	25,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<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>200,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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

The Lotus House Women's Shelter Education & Employment Program delivers life-changing employment and educational support, trainings, linkages, services and internship/employment and job placement opportunities to high special needs women and youth experiencing homelessness- helping them to heal, learn, grow, thrive and lead lives of greater opportunity for themselves and their families.



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

One-on-one education support, individual/group life skills training, computer access and instruction, employment support/linkages, resume creation, job search workshops, access to professional attire, job readiness training, intensive vocational certification training, paid/unpaid employment internships, high school/GED completion support and other activities aimed at improving their lives.

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

One-on-one education support, individual/group life skills training, computer access and instruction, employment support/linkages, resume creation, job search workshops, access to professional attire, job readiness training, intensive vocational certification training, paid/unpaid employment internships, high school/GED completion support and other activities aimed at improving their lives.

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

All those served are high special needs women, youth and children who are experiencing homelessness in Miami-Dade County and are sheltered at our facility. Most have unmet medical needs, unmet mental health needs and little to no prior education/employment before entering our program. We expect to serve 255 individuals through this program during the grant period. Historically, our program has exceeded this number.

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

255 homeless women/female youth will participate in 75% (3 of 4) of the following benchmarks, annually: (1) One on One Education Support, (2) Life Skills Training, (3) One on One Employment Coaching and (4) Computer Access. 255 homeless women/female youth will participate in 50% of the following benchmarks, annually: (1) Obtain employment or increase employment by exit, (2) Complete a professional resume (3) Job search workshop and (4) Access to work clothing.

Homeless women/female youth will participate in at least 1 of the 4 following benchmarks, annually: (1) Job readiness training. (2) Participate in on-site internship training. (3) Participate in on-site paid internship and (4) Begin or complete high school diploma/GED.

Summary of service spreadsheet. Copies of individual action plans and progress notes, available on-site.

**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?**

Historically, Lotus House has consistently met and exceeded contract deliverables for this program. However, should we fail to meet performance measures, we anticipate that funds will be withheld until a corrective action plan is reviewed and approved.

**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



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- 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**

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College



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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.*