



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1764

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

For over 30 years, BSI has been headquartered in the heart of South Dade, serving as a trusted resource for families in need. However, the current facility structure is inadequate to meet the growing demand of the 11,000 families served annually. BSI seeks to renovate its 4,536 sq. ft. facility into a one-of-a-kind community safe haven. This renovation project will establish Be Strong Village, a space designed to provide comprehensive wraparound services that strengthen families and promote self-sufficiency. This village will offer a supportive environment where families can access critical resources, build resilience, and work toward long-term stability.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

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)	1,000,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	1,000,000	50%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	2,000,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?**
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

BSI will implement a capital campaign fundraiser to secure additional funds needed for the renovation.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1764

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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2026

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

Be Strong International will launch a capital campaign to raise the additional funds required for 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.

Be Strong International, 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/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	All funds will go toward renovations to create a functional and dignified client centered space with dedicated areas for private intake sessions, family strengthening services, and centralized wraparound support for families in crisis.	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1764

BSI is seeking support to renovate its facility as a one-of-a-kind community safe haven offering comprehensive wraparound services that strengthens families and promotes self-sufficiency. Headquartered in the heart of South Dade for over 30 years, BSI recently purchased its 4,536 sq.ft. office and the existing facility structure does not meet the demand of the 11,000 families served yearly. This initiative will empower Be Strong Village to provide integrated, trauma-informed care to families.

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

The facility will empower families, strengthen relationships, and promote long-term family stability, ultimately reducing the risk of child abuse, neglect, and family disruption.

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

Families will be able to access comprehensive family-strengthening services such as complimentary parenting education & support through evidence-based and evidence informed strategies, youth development services, case management and care coordination services, and trauma informed support to help vulnerable populations build safe and stable family environments.

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

Families in crisis, Elderly persons, persons with poor mental/physical health, economically disadvantaged persons, at-risk youth, homeless, grade school students, high school students, university/college students, victims of crime

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

Be Strong Village will serve as a safe haven with community benefit measured by: 1) Centralizing services for 11,000 families annually measured by client intake and enrollment assessments; 2) Improving access to parenting skills, youth development services, and family engagement opportunities as measured by parenting skills surveys and family engagement surveys; and 3) Improved access to care coordination that links heads of households to mainstream benefits and employment resources measured by BSI's data management system.

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?

Standard contract penalties that may include the return of appropriated funds.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1764

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

f. Phone Number Ext.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1764

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.