



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1836

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The David Posnack JCC (DPJCC) seeks funding to expand its Special Needs Services & Programs, enhancing support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The expansion includes adding a third classroom to GAP, our full-day adult program; increasing job coaching for HIRE-Ability, a vocational training initiative; enhancing Transitions, our early identification program, with additional one-on-one support and speech therapy; and expanding GibConnect, our afterschool enrichment program, by providing transportation from local schools. These enhancements will help us meet a fast growing demand, foster independence for IDD individuals, and improve the quality of life for children and adults with IDD in 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	450,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	450,000

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)	450,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	25,000	3%
Other	425,000	47%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	900,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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?** 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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We have federal grant funding for one of the Special Needs programs, HIRE-Ability (vocational training program for adults with developmental disabilities); however, that funding ends in January of 2027. We have some smaller grants for the GAP program, our Adult Day Program; however, that grant funding changes each year. Examples include a \$25K grant from UKG this past year, 24-25, and \$50K grant from the Batchelor Foundation back in 23-24. We also have individual donors and fundraising events.

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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIRE-Ability Job Coaches - 2 @\$25/hour x 25 hours/week x 42 weeks • Transitions Program Shadows (additional support staff to be one-on-ones with children) - 2 @ \$22/hr x 35 hrs/wk x 52 weeks • GibConnect After-School Aides/Support Staff that assist with each enrichment class - 4 x \$20/hr x 20 hrs/wk, x 36 weeks • Mini Van Driver for HIRE-Ability (\$20/hr x 10 hrs/week x 42 weeks) 	198,580



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Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expansion of GAP to 3 classrooms/new furnishings, computer, tech equipment, appliances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation for After-School program (Leased bus), 180 days x 200 (2 buses) • Transportation - Purchase a Mini-Van (\$85,140) to transport Adult Employees of HIRE-Ability and The Square Bowl Food Truck to all the Food Truck events and to community partners; plus gas (\$5000) + Insurance (\$10,000) 	184,140
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech Therapist in Transitions (\$50,000) • GibConnect and GAP Program Specialists (music, theater, sports, fitness, arts) 4 Specialists in 2 programs (in GAP and GIBConnect) is \$60/hr x 36 weeks 	67,280
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		450,000

13. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will directly support the expansion of DPJCC's Special Needs Services, enhancing programming for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) from early childhood through adulthood. This expansion will allow GAP to add a third classroom, accommodating more adults with IDD in a structured day program. HIRE-Ability will gain additional job coaches to better support vocational training. Transitions will offer increased one-on-one support and speech therapy for preschoolers with developmental delays. GibConnect will provide after-school enrichment with transportation from local schools. These improvements will ensure greater access, individualized support, and meaningful opportunities for lifelong development.

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

The appropriation will fund direct services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) across all life stages. GAP will provide a full-day program for adults, offering life skills, enrichment, and employment opportunities. HIRE-Ability will expand vocational training and job placement support. Transitions will enhance early intervention for preschoolers with developmental delays, including specialized instruction, one-on-one support, and speech therapy. GibConnect will offer after-school enrichment, including sports, arts, and academic support, with transportation from local schools. These services will ensure individuals with IDD receive essential support, fostering independence, skill development, and meaningful community engagement.

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

The requested funding will expand critical services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) across all ages. The GAP program will add a third classroom, allowing 10 more adults to receive life skills training and enrichment. HIRE-Ability will increase job coaches and acquire a vehicle to transport participants to Food Truck community job sites. Transitions will enhance early intervention by adding one-on-one "shadows" and speech therapy for preschoolers with developmental delays. GibConnect will launch an after-school program with transportation from schools, providing enrichment and social opportunities. These services will promote independence, inclusion, and lifelong development.

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

The target population includes children and adults (ages three years to adults) with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities, as well as individuals facing economic and employment challenges. This includes preschoolers needing early intervention, school-age children requiring after-school enrichment, and adults seeking vocational training and day programs. The expansion will serve an additional 10 adults in the GAP program, more job seekers through HIRE-Ability, and increased preschoolers in Transitions with added support services. GibConnect will provide after-school enrichment with transportation. Overall, the project aims to impact hundreds of individuals and families (up to 400 per year), ensuring greater access to essential services.

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



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The expected benefits of this project include improved mobility, health, mental well-being, cultural enrichment, educational outcomes, and economic activity for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. GAP will enhance life skills and independence for adults, HIRE-Ability will increase job placements, Transitions will improve early intervention outcomes, and GibConnect will enhance after-school enrichment. Outcomes will be measured through standardized assessments, participation metrics, health indicators, vocational tracking, and pre/post evaluations. Job placement, retention, and skill mastery will be tracked for HIRE-Ability, while engagement, educational progress, and independence will be assessed across all programs to ensure measurable success.

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?

Withhold funding.

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):



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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.**

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.