



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1846

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Mustard Seed operates a furniture program for families emerging from hardship, such as homelessness, personal tragedy, or natural disaster. The cost to The Mustard Seed to render services to each family is \$717, which includes case management, program documentation through the agency's client specialist, and funding for the agency's transportation department, which picks up donations to provide to clients. The requested funding will provide 105 families with all of the furniture that they need to make their house a home (15-25 pieces).

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	75,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	75,000

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)	75,000	7%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	25,000	2%
Other	1,068,000	91%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,168,000	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? No

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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	Supports the following employees: case manager (to evaluate the needs of the families), client intake specialist (documents client demographics and information upon receipt of services), and client specialist (documents the furniture received by the clients and assists clients in selecting the furniture).	48,750
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Cost of acquiring donated products (gas, truck maintenance, insurance), sanitizer for the furniture product, and organizational costs to maintaining warehouse space.	26,250
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)		75,000

13. Program Performance

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

105 families in the Central Florida area will be provided basic household furniture, including beds, tables, couches, etc. as they emerge from situations of crisis such as homelessness/natural disaster. To provide 15-25 pieces of furniture to families in need, The Mustard Seed incurs a cost of \$717, which encompasses programmatic costs to support staff who administer the program, as well as associated costs in receiving furniture donations from the community. The goal would be to support dignity in transition for families in need.



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

Activities and services included will be providing the furniture program to families in the Central Florida area emerging from crisis.

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

For families emerging from situations of homelessness, personal tragedy or natural disaster, basic household furniture will be provided to the household once they have achieved stable housing. Funding provided by the state of Florida will provide 105 families with 15-25 pieces of furniture.

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

The target population is primarily economically disadvantaged families who have experienced homelessness, and individuals and families who have lost their personal belongings to a natural disaster. 105 families will be provided with furniture, which is an estimated 200-400 individuals.

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

When families are emerging from crisis, it is difficult to adequately furnish their homes with limited financial resources. The Mustard Seed seeks to restore dignity to families by providing basic household furniture. The benefit to the children in the home is substantial, with parents reporting that children's quality of sleep has improved, and that 85% of families served report an improvement in their children's grades in school. The methodology of these statistics is conducted through a pre/post survey provided at time of service as well as six months post.

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?

If the organization fails to meet the goal of serving 105 families with the funding provided by the state of Florida, the remaining funds will be returned to the state.

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):

NA

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#:



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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.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name



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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.