



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1847

1. **Project Title** Mentors For Fatherless Children & Abused Families – Emotional Intelligence (EI) Program for At-Risk

2. **Senate Sponsor** Carlos Smith

3. **Date of Request** 2/27/2025

4. **Project/Program Description**

The EI Program provides mentorship, crisis intervention, and Emotional Intelligence (EI) training to at-risk youth. It focuses on self-awareness, empathy, and decision-making skills to reduce risky behaviors, improve mental health, and foster personal and academic growth.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Children and Families

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	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	350,000	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.** 500,000

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

Community fundraising, partnerships, and federal grants.

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	This includes the salary and benefits of the Executive Director responsible for overseeing all aspects of the program. Duties include strategic planning, community engagement, staff supervision, fundraising, and ensuring compliance with state guidelines	60,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Salaries for key personnel, including the Director of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Administrator, who manage fundraising efforts, donor relations, administrative operations, and program coordination to ensure seamless delivery of services	60,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Covers operational expenses such as laptops, software licenses, office supplies, promotional materials, and travel costs for outreach and program related activities. These are essential for efficient program execution and data management.	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	External consultants and contracted trainers will deliver specialized Emotional Intelligence (EI) training, career readiness workshops, and conduct thorough program evaluations. Their expertise will improve program quality and outcomes.	30,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Salaries for case managers who work directly with at-risk and at-promise youth, providing mentorship, creating support plans, and connecting participants with essential resources to improve their educational and emotional well-being	55,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program activity costs, including materials for workshops, transportation for participants, and hosting events that promote community engagement and provide resources to youth and their families.	50,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Additional funding for contracted services that enhance staff training, including Emotional Intelligence (EI), trauma-informed care, and other evidence-based practices in youth mentorship.	45,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

13. Program Performance

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

The project aims to enhance the emotional intelligence (EI) of at-risk youth, resulting in improved decision-making, reduced risky behaviors such as substance abuse and violence, and increased academic and career success. It will promote safer communities and economic self-sufficiency among participants. The outcomes will be measured using pre- and post-program assessments of EI competencies, participant attendance and completion rates, and surveys from participants and stakeholders. Long-term tracking will evaluate improvements in academic performance, employment placements, and reductions in recidivism.

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

The program will deliver activities and services such as emotional intelligence training, life skills workshops, and mentorship programs to equip participants with self-regulation, empathy, and decision-making tools. Career readiness sessions will provide guidance on resume writing, job interviews, and identifying career paths, while mental health services will address emotional challenges. Transportation, training materials, and community engagement events will support program accessibility and amplify its impact, ensuring all intended outcomes are achieved.

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

The project will provide direct services such as emotional intelligence training, one-on-one and group mentorship, and career readiness workshops tailored to help at-risk youth develop critical life skills. Mental health counseling and crisis intervention will be accessible for participants and their families, while transportation services will ensure attendance and engagement in program activities. Additionally, the project will host community events to promote stakeholder involvement and awareness of available resources.

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

This project serves at-risk youth aged 10-24, economically disadvantaged individuals, homeless youth, victims of trauma or abuse, and those currently or formerly incarcerated. By targeting vulnerable populations in need of support, the project aims to address critical social and economic challenges. The program is designed to impact over 400 individuals annually, fostering positive change across diverse communities.

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

project is expected to improve the emotional intelligence (EI) of at-risk youth, fostering better decision-making, increased academic success, reduced substance abuse, and a decrease in juvenile delinquency. It will empower participants with life skills and provide mentorship to support long-term personal and professional growth. The outcomes will be measured using pre- and post-program evaluations, participant surveys, tracking attendance and completion rates, and monitoring long-term indicators such as academic performance, job placements, and recidivism reduction. Community feedback and stakeholder reports will further validate the program's effectiveness.

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?

In addition to standard penalties, the contracting agency could implement financial penalties such as withholding or reducing funds proportionate to unmet deliverables. Other measures could include requiring a corrective action plan with strict deadlines, temporary suspension of funding until compliance is achieved, and public reporting of underperformance. Persistent non-compliance may lead to contract termination to ensure accountability and proper use of appropriated funds.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? No

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?



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- 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):

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



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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.