



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2331

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

4. Project/Program Description

With technology advancing at such a rapid rate, it can be a challenge for some seniors 55 and older to keep up with the pace. However, a recent study from the Pew Research Center shows that more and more seniors are catching up, especially when it comes to the internet. Internet use among seniors has risen steadily since 2000 when just 14% of seniors were internet users. Today, 67% of adults ages 55 and older indicate that they have accessed and utilized the internet. According to the study, there are more challenges in rural communities due to lack of access to computers and lack of interest for some of the older Americans. Gadsden Wellness propose to change the dynamics of computer literacy by providing state of the art computers and ongoing training at the Adult Day programs in 4 of the rural counties (Gadsden, Leon, Jackson and Liberty) in the Big Bend Area. We Plan to hire young adults (ages 16-21) to provide the training.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	61%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	75,000	9%
Other	250,000	30%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	825,000	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.
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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)?

Yes

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.

Leasor-Lonnie Draper
 Leasee -Gadsden Wellness/Sherrie Taylor
 Gadsden Wellness will be the recipient of the computers. (capital outlay)

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	Gadsden Wellness will recruit young adults ages 16-21 to train seniors on computer literacy. i.e, computer components, internet access, compose letters, safely pay bills, make appointments and utilize emails. (state requested fund)	125,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Gadsden Wellness will use \$375,000 to purchase up to 200 computers, printers, mice, speakers, software, etc. to operate. The project will also include internet services, tables and chairs. (state requested funds)	375,000
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)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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



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By June 2026, senior citizens computer literacy will increase by 23% or greater in the following areas: computer components, composing letters, accessing the internet , pay bills safely online, send and receive emails. Seniors will receive intensive training on safe and best practice for computer and internet use.

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

Activities will include seniors identifying computer components, composing letters, accessing the internet, pay bills safely online, send and receive emails. Seniors will receive intensive training on safe and best practice for computer and internet use. Young adults aged 16-21 will receive customer service and computer training. The young adults will train on all activities listed in 14a. Seniors will receive intensive training on safe and best practice for computer and internet u responsible for training the seniors on all activities above. Computer awareness benefits for seniors will include but not limited to access to resources in the event of an emergency, communications with family and friends through social media, physical and mental health activities, i.e., brain games, online exercise classes for seniors, set doctor's appointments, submit prescriptions online and stay informed on news and current events.

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

The seniors will receive hands on computer training which will include but not limited to the understanding of computer components, internet access, compose letters and send emails etc. Young adults will receive intensive customer service and computer literacy training. Young adults will also receive training on patience, sensitivity and how to relay computer literacy in an effective matter.

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

The target population will be senior citizens (ages 55 and up) and young adults ages (16-21),Economically disadvantaged persons, At-risk youth, High school students, Physically disabled, and victims of crime. We expect to serve up to 350 seniors and up to 50 young juveniles.

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

The expected benefit is for seniors to effectively communicate with family and friends through social media. Seniors will also have access to physical and mental health activities, i.e., brain games, online exercise classes for seniors, set doctors appointment, submit prescriptions online etc., stay informed on news and current events. It gives young adults something other to do than committing crimes. Benefits for student participations will be to gain new skills and knowledge, seniors and students will be inspired, motivated, and given a sense of purpose. Students will have the benefits of a grandparent in the absence of grandparents. The methodology for measuring the outcome will be quarterly surveys and assessments.

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?

Depending on the circumstances, violations may result in cancellation, suspension, or termination of contracts, withholding of progress payments, debarment, and/or other sanctions.

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?



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- 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

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

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



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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.