



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2364

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Selah Place provides stable, low-cost transitional housing for vulnerable single mothers and their children in Pinellas County who have experienced significant trauma, such as homelessness, foster care involvement, incarceration, or substance abuse recovery. The goal is to prevent family separation, reduce reentry into the foster care system, and equip families with the tools needed for long-term economic stability and self-sufficiency. Families in the program stay for 2-3 years while working toward financial independence, healing from past trauma through therapy and mentorship, and furthering their education. The requested funds will be used specifically for housing costs, including leasing individual homes, covering utilities, and maintaining properties. This funding will help sustain current program operations and potentially expand to serve additional families in need. Selah Place has strong community backing, including support from local donors.

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	117,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>117,000</b>

**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)	117,000	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	118,430	50%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>235,430</b>	<b>100%</b>

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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Selah Place currently relies on a combination of private donations from community members, occasional contributions from larger donors, and program fees paid by participants, which range from \$200 to \$900 per month. While these sources help sustain operations, they are not sufficient to fully cover housing costs and program expansion. State funding is critical to ensuring continued support for vulnerable families and preventing reentry into the foster care system.

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	The requested state funds will be used to cover essential housing-related expenses for program participants, including: Leasing Costs: Rental expenses for homes used to provide stable transitional housing for single mothers and their children. Utilities: Electricity, water, and other essential services for program housing. Property Maintenance: Repairs, upkeep, and necessary modifications to ensure safe and habitable living conditions for families.	117,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0



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<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>	<b>117,000</b>
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### 13. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will provide stable transitional housing for vulnerable single mothers and their children, preventing family separation and reducing foster care reentry. By covering leasing costs, utilities, and property maintenance, the funds will ensure families have a safe, affordable place to live while working toward financial stability, healing from trauma, and achieving self-sufficiency.

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

The requested funds will be used to provide safe, stable housing for vulnerable single mothers and their children. Activities and services supported by these funds include leasing homes, covering utilities, and maintaining properties to ensure habitable living conditions. This housing stability enables families to focus on financial independence, trauma recovery, and personal growth while preventing reentry into the foster care system.

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

The appropriation project will directly provide transitional housing for vulnerable single mothers and their children, ensuring they have a stable and secure place to live. This includes covering rent, utilities, and property maintenance. Stable housing serves as the foundation for families to work toward financial stability, pursue education or employment, access community resources, and break cycles of trauma and foster care involvement.

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

The target population served by this project is vulnerable single mothers and their children who have experienced significant trauma, such as homelessness, foster care involvement, incarceration, or substance abuse recovery. These families are at risk of separation or have recently reunified and need stable housing to rebuild their lives. The project is expected to serve approximately 50 individuals annually, with the possibility of expanding to 100 over the next 1-2 years and beyond as the program gains momentum and our building project is realized.

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

The expected benefits of this project include improved mental health, enhanced economic self-sufficiency, reduced recidivism, reduced substance abuse, and prevention of child protective services involvement. These outcomes will be measured through:

Mental health improvements: Tracked by participation in therapy, self-reported mental health assessments, and case manager evaluations.

Economic self-sufficiency: Measured by employment rates, income levels, participation in financial coaching, and completion of educational programs.

Reduced recidivism: Evaluated through the percentage of participants who avoid re-incarceration or legal system involvement during and after the program.

Reduced substance abuse: Tracked through program drug testing (if applicable), self-reported sobriety, and continued participation in recovery programs.

**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?**



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In addition to standard penalties, the contracting agency may consider implementing the following actions if performance measures are not met:  
 Financial withholdings or reductions: A percentage of the funding could be withheld if key deliverables, such as housing stability, participant retention, and financial independence, are not achieved.  
 Mandatory performance improvement plans (PIPs): If deliverables are not met, the agency may require the organization to submit a PIP, outlining corrective actions, timelines, and resource allocation.  
 Increased reporting requirements: More frequent or detailed reports may be requested to track progress toward meeting objectives.  
 Potential contract termination: If continued non-compliance occurs despite corrective measures, the agency may consider terminating the contract.  
 These measures would be aimed at ensuring the program's effectiveness and accountability in meeting its objectives for vulnerable families.

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

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.*