



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2500

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The project is designed to support the infrastructure expansion of Second Harvest of the Big Bend (SHBB), significantly enhancing its ability to combat food insecurity across 16 rural North Florida counties. This initiative will double SHBB's existing 25,000-square-foot warehouse food storage capacity, providing the additional space necessary to better serve the region's needs. Furthermore, the project will repurpose the current administrative area into a state-of-the-art production kitchen, dedicated to preparing nutritious, prepackaged meals for children and families. The new production kitchen will also play a critical role in disaster response, capable of providing hot meals within hours of a disaster striking. Unlike other organizations that require significant time to set up and become operational, SHBB's kitchen will be functional year-round and able to scale up operations quickly and efficiently.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	3,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>3,000,000</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)	3,000,000	43%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	3,000,000	43%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	1,000,000	14%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>7,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.
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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?

11/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12/31/2026

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.

America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend, Inc.

### 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		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Contractor labor and fees for permits, property, development, construction, storage equipment and manual labor related to facility expansion.	3,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>3,000,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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**Storage Infrastructure Expansion:** Expand warehouse facility by 100% to address the needs of food-insecure individuals across 16 rural North Florida counties. Our current capacity regularly falls short of our community’s needs. Doubling our storage capacity will harden a very vulnerable region of our state to natural disasters and ultimately allow Second Harvest to more effectively serve rural counties of North Florida, better address the hunger that over 100,000 families in this region are experiencing on any given day, and be a more effective partner to the State of Florida in times of disaster.

**State-of-the-Art Production Kitchen:** The new production kitchen will prepare nutritious, prepackaged meals for children and families, with the capacity to produce up to 3,500 meals and hundreds of snacks daily. This kitchen will play a pivotal role in meeting ongoing nutritional needs and ensuring rapid disaster response.

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

- Collaborate with contractors to secure permits, oversee construction, and manage labor for the development of the new kitchen.
- Expand facility storage infrastructure by installing new equipment and systems to increase storage capacity by 100%.
- Enhance inventory turnover and distribution to serve low-income rural families across 16 counties in North Florida more effectively.

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

- Increase access to fresh, nutritious food distribution for low-income, food-insecure children and families in rural food deserts.
- Generate additional food cost savings for low-income families of over \$9,000,000 through targeted food distribution services.
- Provide essential basic needs support during emergency response and natural disasters impacting Florida schools, businesses, and families.
- Produce up to 3,500 hot and frozen healthy prepackaged food for children and families daily.

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

Our service area focuses on supporting low-income, food-insecure households and the ALICE population (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). This 16-county region in North Florida includes Calhoun, Columbia, Dixie, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Suwanee, Taylor, and Wakulla counties. Within this service area:

- 55% of the population, over 280,000 people, fall within the ALICE category (2023 United Way of the Big Bend / United Way of Northwest Florida) meaning they are working but still live paycheck to paycheck. And of this 55%,
- 20% or approximately 120,000 people, live in poverty (Census 2023).

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

**Improve Health and Wellness:** Enhance health and wellness outcomes for low-income, food-insecure households, focusing on targeted populations such as children and seniors, with special attention to rural communities.

**Job Creation and Economic Impact:** Generate jobs and contracts through a \$4 million capital project, encompassing permits, property development, construction, manual labor, and direct services associated with facility expansion.

**Significant Food Cost Savings:** Achieve over \$9,000,000 in food cost savings for low-income, food-insecure families across 16 rural North Florida counties.

**Meal Production:** Produce a substantial number of hot and frozen healthy prepackaged meals annually for children and families.

**Enhanced Storage Infrastructure:** Gain significant storage infrastructure capacity through facility upgrades, enabling increased inventory and distribution capabilities.

**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?**

Delay or loss of funding if deliverables are not met.

**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)



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- 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**

**b. Municipality and County**



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#### 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.*