



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2560

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Li'l Abner Foundation empowers underserved youth from 1st through 12th grade in Miami-Dade County through academic and physical education programs designed to break the cycle of poverty. Serving over 200 students annually, the foundation operates centers in Sweetwater and Palmetto Bay, areas with significant socio-economic challenges, including high poverty rates, low employment, and limited educational attainment. Programs include tutorials, SAT preparation, martial arts, dance, and archery, fostering academic success, discipline, and perseverance. Staffed by certified Florida teachers and volunteers from institutions like Florida International University, the foundation ensures impactful mentorship and guidance. Additionally, it hosts initiatives like Law Enforcement & First Responder Recognition Week and field trips for terminally ill children, enriching lives beyond the classroom.

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	527,863
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	527,863

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)	527,863	41%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	47,500	4%
Other	700,000	55%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	1,275,363	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2024-25	0	454,429	105	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2560

The foundation can rely on private funding as an alternative to state funding, drawing support from donations, corporate sponsorships, grants, and fundraising efforts to sustain its programs and operations.

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
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	Executive Director: provides program oversight, accounting, marketing, resource allocation, hiring, staff and volunteer supervision, community engagement, and compliance and safety. Assistant Director: Supports all foundation activities, assists in program development, and overseas operations. Additionally, responsible for designing and preparing Taekwondo and archery programs, scheduling competitions and seminars, teaching classes, supervising assistants, and maintaining attendance records.	166,561
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses include program equipment, office and program supplies, advertising, competition fees, location overhead, educational materials, background screenings and miscellaneous repairs.	187,049
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	The expenses include accounting, admin, compliance, and after-school programming.	174,253
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2560

Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		527,863

13. Program Performance

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

The funds requested will be used to provide comprehensive after-school programs that empower underserved youth through education, fitness, and discipline. Specifically, the funds will support the hiring of skilled instructors for programs such as dance, literacy, tutoring, archery, and Taekwondo; cover essential expenses like program equipment, educational materials, laptops, and competition fees; and address operational needs, including rent, utilities, background screenings, and administrative costs. These resources will enable the foundation to improve academic performance, foster personal development, and break the cycle of poverty for at-risk children in socio-economically challenged communities.

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

The foundation offers a comprehensive after-school care program designed to provide underserved minority children from kindergarten through 12th grade with enriching educational, cultural, and physical activities. Additionally, the foundation also sponsors an annual field trip, creating meaningful experiences for students with terminal health conditions.

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

The appropriation project will provide a variety of direct services to benefit citizens, focusing on the enrichment and development of children from kindergarten through 12th grade. These services include daily after-school tutoring to support academic success, high school SAT preparation to enhance college readiness, and a range of extracurricular activities to promote physical and cultural development. Taekwondo classes will be offered three days a week, archery two days a week, and dance classes three days a week for all age groups. Additionally, self-defense classes will be available three days a week and wrestling and conditioning classes 5 days a week ensuring a well-rounded program that meets the educational, physical, and creative needs of the community.

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 economically disadvantaged youth from kindergarten through 12th grade, with an expected reach of over 200 individuals annually.

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 of this project is improved reading capabilities as well as enhanced physical and mental health among participating children. These outcomes will be measured by tracking the children's progress in all activities and evaluating their performance in various local and state competitions.

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?

Pro rata return of 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?

- 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):



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2560

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

c. Organization Type

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2560

- 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.