

LFIR # 2713

1. Project Title	Florida Network of CACs - Bridge the Gap VOCA deficits

2. Senate Sponsor Jay Trumbull

3. Date of Request 3/5/2025

4. Project/Program Description

FNCAC is the accredited State Chapter and membership organization for Florida's Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and is charged with promoting the CAC model in Florida, enhancing services and capacity of local CACs via technical assistance, training and development, and administering funds to CACs. CACs facilitate a trauma informed - MDT approach to investigations & interventions of child abuse and crimes against children working alongside, LE, DCF, and the Judiciary. CACs provide advocacy and mental health services to children & families & prioritize child safety through education and outreach programs which prevent child abuse and educate adults on child and family safety. This project will support the expansion of CAC services in our state and supplement funding for current programs of the FNCAC/CACs due to growing needs and reduced federal funding from the Crime Victims Fund.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Dep

Department of Legal Affairs and Attorney General

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	4,900,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	4,900,000

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)	4,900,000	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	4,900,000	100%	

8. Has this project previously received state funding? If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year	Amount		Specific	Vetoed
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #	
2024-25	4,957,894	4,890,625	1352	No

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

Yes

Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

4,900,000

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



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Sustainability is a focus for CACs and State Chapters at the national and local levels. In the next 2-3 years, we anticipate additional funds be made available from federal sources such as the Crime Victims Fund or Victims of Child Abuse Act.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

O Planning O Design O Construction O 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	Approximately 30% of the FNCAC's Executive Director's time would go towards the oversight and execution of the FNCAC's efforts towards expansion of CAC services and monitoring the goals and deliverables of FNCAC and CACs.	
Other Salary and Benefits	FNCAC administrative staff will support the QA, monitoring, and additional TA needed to support the CACs throughout this project.	
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Monitoring, Training, Equipment, and Travel Costs	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	FNCAC Statewide Program Staff will support the expansion of CAC services and provide training and technical assistance related to quality assurance.	35,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	FNCAC Training, Equipment, and Travel Costs	5,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Subawards to FNCAC member CACs (\$4.6M), FNCAC Consultants/Market Research/Study (\$100,000)	4,700,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (m	ust equal total from question #6)	4,900,000



13. Program Performance

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

FNCAC is the accredited State Chapter and membership organization for Florida's Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and is charged with promoting the CAC model in Florida, enhancing services and capacity of local CACs through technical assistance, training and development, and administering funds to CACs. This project will maintain funding levels to CACs facilitating collaboration and interventions for child victims and support the FNCAC's Growth & Expansion Project to analyze gaps in service.

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

FNCAC will administer & oversee the work of member CACs while beginning its Growth & Expansion plan - gap analysis of services in the state by working with stakeholders, reviewing state data, and determining benchmarks for the CAC movement. CACs will coordinate and facilitate the Multidisciplinary Teams in their communities ensuring services to child victims, non-offending caregivers, and siblings.

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

FNCAC will meet directly with stakeholders in phase 1 of it's growth & expansion evaluation. All will provide training & orientation to DCF, LE, SAO, and other investigative and service providers. CACs will provide core services which include: Medical /Psych Evaluations, Forensic/Specialized Interviews, Advocacy, Mental Health, Case Review, and Prevention/Education & Outreach to child victims, caregivers, and siblings.

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

The target population for this project are child-victims of abuse and their families, multidisciplinary partners such as law enforcement, state attorneys offices, mental health professionals, etc., and local community stakeholders. CACs report serving over 25,000 children in 2024.

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 to maintain level services and operations that support child victims in their communities. CACs provide monthly financial invoices, data reports, and are monitored by the FNCAC. The National Children's Alliance's standards of accreditation require that each individual center collect initial and follow-up surveys from families and the multidisciplinary partners either through the Outcome Measurement System available at a national level or their through own standard practice. The FNCAC may review survey results at any time. The FNCAC administers a biannual Membership Survey to its members in order to continuously improve its services and engagement with CACs. By funding FNCAC's portion of this project, we will work towards the expansion of CAC services in underserved communities (rural, urban, etc.) and educate communities about the benefits of using the CAC Model.

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?

Penalties for non-compliance will be detailed in subawards to each CAC.

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

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

- D Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- **C** Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infastructure)

b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):



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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	Luzed	Last Name	Cruz
b. Organization	Florida Network of Childre	n's Advocac	y Centers
c. E-mail Address	lcruz@fncac.org		
d. Phone Number	(850)671-4791	Ext.	

18. Recipient Contact Information

	Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers	
b. Municipality and	County Statewide	

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	Luzed	Last Name	Cruz	
e. E-mail Address	lcruz@fncac.org			
f. Phone Number	(850)671-4791	Ext.		
19. Lobbyist Contact Information				
a. Name	Kelly C. Mallette			
b. Firm Name	Ronald L. Book PA			
c. E-mail Address	kelly@rlbookpa.com			
d. Phone Number	(305)935-1866			

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.