



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2948

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The Emergency Infrastructure and Response Program (EIRP) is designed to provide immediate support and resources to families and the child welfare system in Hillsborough County during times of crisis. The program ensures that essential infrastructure and emergency services are available to address urgent needs, stabilize families, and safeguard children at risk. Services would include: Emergency Shelter and Housing Support: Access to temporary housing solutions for families displaced by crises, with a focus on keeping families together whenever possible; Critical Resource Distribution: Coordination of essential supplies, such as food, clothing, hygiene products, and medical care, to meet the immediate needs of children and families in distress; Community Partnerships: Collaboration with local organizations, businesses, and government agencies to provide comprehensive services and create a network of support during emergencies.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

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)	750,000	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	750,000	100%

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?** 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 # 2948

In lieu of state funding we would rely on our local funding sources who have a history of funding the project.

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	Two maintenance personnel salaries and benefits who will work with our community group care facilities and families dealing with pre-emergency and post emergency response.	126,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Pickup truck, cargo trailer, tools, fuel, insurance, maintenance, supplies, storage unit, small portable generators, medium portable generators, flood mitigation equipment, emergency response software, temporary housing, transportation assistance, emergency food and supplies, home storm preparation and repair.	623,500
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)		750,000

13. Program Performance



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2948

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

The EIRP reflects a commitment to protecting children, preserving families, and strengthening the child welfare system's ability to respond effectively during emergencies. By providing rapid and targeted assistance, the program ensures that families and children in Hillsborough County have the support they need to recover and thrive in the face of challenges. With the support Senator Jay Collins and Representative Traci Koster, in partnership with Non-Profit Operation BBQ and local community organizations, we successfully organized a donation drive to assist foster families in Hillsborough County following the devastating effects of Hurricane Milton. Volunteer Florida provided \$50,000 in assistance, which was utilized to support those affected by the storm. This experience highlighted the critical importance of supporting families in crisis to ensure their safety, foster stable home environments, and reduce the likelihood of children being removed from their homes due to a disaster.

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

Safety Assessments: Conducting immediate safety evaluations to identify risks and implement interventions to protect children and families. Temporary Housing Solutions: Providing hotel vouchers, emergency shelter placements, or short-term housing assistance to stabilize families in crisis. Family Preservation Efforts: Prioritizing services that keep children with their families or kinship caregivers whenever safe and possible. Essential Supplies Distribution: Delivering food, clothing, diapers, formula, hygiene products, and other necessary items to families experiencing emergencies. Home Repairs: Funding urgent repairs for plumbing, electricity, HVAC systems, or structural issues in homes where families reside. Collaborative Networks: Building partnerships with local government, non-profits, and businesses to ensure a holistic response to family and child welfare emergencies.

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

Safety Assessments: Conducting immediate safety evaluations to identify risks and implement interventions to protect children and families. Temporary Housing Solutions: Providing hotel vouchers, emergency shelter placements, or short-term housing assistance to stabilize families in crisis. Family Preservation Efforts: Prioritizing services that keep children with their families or kinship caregivers whenever safe and possible. Essential Supplies Distribution: Delivering food, clothing, diapers, formula, hygiene products, and other necessary items to families experiencing emergencies. Home Repairs: Funding urgent repairs for plumbing, electricity, HVAC systems, or structural issues in homes where families reside. Collaborative Networks: Building partnerships with local government, non-profits, and businesses to ensure a holistic response to family and child welfare emergencies.

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

The Emergency Infrastructure and Response Program (EIRP) is designed to serve vulnerable individuals and families in Hillsborough County, with a focus on those impacted by crises that threaten the safety and stability of children and families. This includes: At-risk children and families involved in the child welfare system. Children at risk of removal from their homes due to unsafe conditions or emergencies; Kinship caregivers and foster families relatives or foster families stepping in to care for children during emergencies; Young adults transitioning out of foster care.

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

The Emergency Infrastructure and Response Program (EIRP) aims to achieve the following outcomes: Improved family stability reduced risk of family separation by addressing emergency housing and safety concerns. Enhanced access to essential resources and infrastructure support, preventing crises from escalating. Child safety and well-being Strengthened community resilience. Better preparedness and response to emergencies within Hillsborough County. Increased collaboration among local agencies, businesses, and community partners to provide holistic support. Economic stability for families. Prevention of homelessness and financial hardship by offering emergency housing, rent assistance, and resource navigation. Reduced long-term costs to the child welfare system by keeping families intact and addressing root causes of instability.

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?

Establish a performance monitoring framework to identify non-compliant expenses and return of unexpended or improperly expended funds.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? Yes



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2948

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):

For future disasters, or potential disasters

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



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Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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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.