



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3053

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

R'Clubs funding request supports the provision of continuous childcare services during hurricanes and natural disasters. Funding will be used for a building generator and to replace the aged roof with a hurricane-rated roof to ensure continuous operations in our admin. building and licensed programs and support services. For FY23-24, R'Club served over 5,000 children across our 48 licensed programs improving school readiness and academic proficiencies. An additional 11,540 children strengthened their literacy, developmental, and social-emotional skills in four support programs and services.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	455,890
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>455,890</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)	455,890	90%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	50,000	10%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>505,890</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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## 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

07/07/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

09/01/2025

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

R'Club Child Care's organization budget includes funding for general operations and staffing expenses at the administrative building and in our programs. Funding for our facilities department ensures the project's maintenance of the generator, equipment security, and roof inspections.

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.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, R'Club Child Care, Inc. is governed by a board of directors who ensure that any capital funding is accounted for and appropriately spent.

### 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	For 24,220 sq. ft. building, replace aging flat roof (installed in 2008) with new roof hurricane-rated to 135 mph; and add a building generator to include 150 KV natural gas generator, wiring to electrical service, engineering plans, TECO gas meter, and security fence.	455,890
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>455,890</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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R'Club's goal for requested funding is maintaining continuous operations during natural disasters to support high-quality early learning and childcare services for Pinellas County children of working families. Without administrative operations, 52 childcare programs and services cannot operate, impacting enrolled children's education outcomes and families' ability to work. The funding for a generator and hurricane-rated roofing will allow R'Club's admin. office to continue its childcare operations during natural disasters and hurricanes.

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

The requested funds would be used for the purchase and installation of hurricane hardening and safety improvements enabling R'Club to maintain continuous operations. With a generator and hurricane-rated roofing, R'Club's administrative building will not close or reduce level of program support due to loss of power and air conditioning or water ingress interruptions. Childcare programs and services would continue operations, enabling children to make progress toward their education outcomes and keeping families working.

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

Continuous high-quality early learning and childcare services will be provided to children ages two months - 22 years enrolled at R'Club's 48 licensed programs and 4 support services-- 8 early learning academies, 31 elementary school programs, 7 middle school programs, 2 programs for exceptional students, HIPYPY (preschool literacy), Special Services (children with challenging behaviors), Read Strong (literacy outreach) and 8 Edible Peace Patch Project elementary school gardens.

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

Annually, R'Club Child Care serves over 5,000 children ages two months - 22 years at 48 licensed programs with an additional 11,540 children receiving support programs and services. In Pinellas County, 3,700+ enrolled families have the ability to work knowing their children are safe and engaged. Many enrolled children live in communities where quality childcare and early learning programs are scarce and school-age programs serve students at elementary and middle schools in Pinellas County.

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

With continuous operations of R'Club's admin. office and programs, the expected benefit is for children to make progress towards their education outcomes and giving families the ability to work. Across programs, attendance and measurable outcomes track children's progress. Preschool students' kindergarten readiness is measured by researched assessment tools. School-age children's progress measured by program attendance and school grades. Continuous R'Club operations ensures children make progress towards their individual education goals.

**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?**

For failing to meet the deliverables, the contracting agency may consider reversion of funds and standard contract penalties.

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

**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):**

Hurricanes Helene and Milton

**15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?**



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- Yes, Applied
- Yes, Received
- No
- No, but intends to apply

**a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:**

NA

**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)
  - Local Entity



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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.*