



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3107

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. **Project/Program Description**

The Heartland Youth Village campus is in need of significant repairs and renovations for existing shelter and group homes/buildings where collaborating partners can provide safety, stability and caring relationships to nurture and heal hurting children and teenagers with high needs that have experienced trauma as a result of child abuse and neglect. This will also allow Heartland for Children to increase bed capacity in 2 vacant homes for up to 8 children in foster care so they can remain in the same circuit (local community).

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	300,000
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	300,000	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	300,000	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		
2023-24	0	500,000	330A	No

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.**

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects



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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? 07/01/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 06/30/2026

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

Funding for operations is funded by Heartland for Children through a contract with the Department of Children and Families. Maintenance of the project can be funded through grants and donor dollars.

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.

City of Bartow and Polk County Board of County Commission are the owners of the property. The Florida Sheriff Youth Ranches subleases from them and Heartland for Children subleases from the Florida Sheriff Youth Ranches who has a 99-year lease with the City of Bartow and Polk County Board of County Commissioners.

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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Repairs and renovations in homes/buildings that provide shelter, group care and foster care services for children that have experienced abuse and neglect. Includes, but is not limited to, replacing rotten wood (fascia), roofing, HVAC (heating, ventilation & AC), appliances, plumbing, ventilation, cabinets, flooring, windows, electrical, pressure washing of tile roofs, asphalt repair, and painting.	300,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000

13. Program Performance

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



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

Repairs and renovations will be provided to 2 vacant homes and other existing shelter & group homes/buildings that operate to serve foster children on the Heartland Youth Village campus. The 2 vacant homes will be established to serve up to 8 additional local children as a placement option. The homes at the Heartland Youth Village will serve high needs youth with emotional or behavioral health disorders. Existing homes, such as the shelter and group home will continue to provide care for children in foster care.

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

Direct placement services will be provided to children in the foster care system that are placed in a home on the Heartland Youth Village campus that would include supervision by staff/house parents, basic needs, transportation, normalcy activities and mentoring for high needs youth that are in the foster care system and at-risk or involved with law enforcement or the juvenile justice system. Referrals will be made for any service that is needed for the child that is not provided by the placement provider.

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

The target population served are children in the foster care system that have been removed from their homes in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties due to abuse, neglect and/or abandonment. These may include children with poor mental/physical health, homeless, at-risk youth, developmentally delayed, victims of crime, economically disadvantaged, and grade school/high school students. The Shelter, Group Homes and enhanced Family Foster Homes could serve over 150 children in a 12-month period depending on the permanency plan for each child.

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

-95% of children in out-of-home care will receive medical and dental services that is measured through the Community Based Care Lead Agency Scorecard established by the Department of Children and Families.
 -Children will improve their mental health by being referred to mental health providers to receive the appropriate mental health services based on their mental health needs which is measured by the referrals made to providers, assessments completed by providers, medication management and treatment plans to improve their mental well-being.
 -Children will be provided supervision by trained staff 7 days a week that will provide structure and activities to minimize runaways and criminal activity which is measured by incident reports.
 -Children will receive recreational, educational and daily living activities to improve social skills and build self-esteem and will be measured through multi-disciplinary team staffings and contract monitoring.

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?

Performance should be based on the completion of repairs and renovations on the Heartland Youth Village campus in order to pass inspections and meet all licensing standards. Standard contract penalties are sufficient.

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):



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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)



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- 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.