



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3173

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

4. Project/Program Description

Over the past decade, the number of children in foster care in Florida has steadily increased, rising by 24% between 2012 and 2022, with a 13% increase in the rate per 100,000 children. Alarminglly, 98% of child sex trafficking survivors had prior involvement with child welfare services, according to Freedom United. The primary objective of the funds requested for the Florida Girls Initiative is to prevent and reduce the number of girls at risk of being trafficked, ensuring they have access to the support and resources needed to build a brighter future. This program aims to educate and empower young girls, helping them recognize and avoid immediate threats to their well-being.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	62%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	300,000	38%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	800,000	100%

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.

Funding for The Florida Girls Initiative will come from several alternative sources such as public grants, corporate sponsorships, individual donations, and fundraising events.



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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)?

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	CEO /Project Head salary and benefits	21,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Other salary and benefits for three agency staff members	82,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will be used to support the state level listening tours in 6 counties throughout Florida for the purpose of in-person site visits, collecting data, focus groups and stakeholder interviews to develop a high quality design and implementation framework for the Florida Girls Initiative.	300,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted services with professional agencies to provide services such as Accounting/Annual Audit, HR support, Training and Development, Liability Insurance and IT services.	97,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The Florida Girls Initiative aims to inspire hope and empower girls by providing the education and resources needed to choose positive paths away from street life. It helps them avoid human trafficking and other dangers through a structured, evidence-based curriculum focusing on positive peer interactions, resiliency, problem-solving, decision-making, and trafficking awareness. FGI's goal is to empower girls to build safer, brighter futures.

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

Funding for the Florida Girls Initiative will support education, leadership development, mental health, and community engagement for "at-promise girls" in underserved communities. It will also facilitate research to identify service gaps and develop tailored, evidence-based programs that can be expanded statewide.

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

FGI programs support "at-promise" girls ages 11-17 in avoiding high-risk behaviors like substance use, unsafe sex, and violence. By offering meaningful activities and skill-building experiences, the program empowers girls to make healthy choices and build successful future. Funding from the state appropriations request will expand these critical services for "at-promise girls" in underserved communities, with a focus on human trafficking prevention, trauma-informed care, academic support, and mental health services.

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

FGI programs serve "at-promise" girls ages 11-17 who are at risk of engaging in high-risk behaviors such as substance use, unsafe sex, violence, and fall victim to human trafficking. The program prioritizes girls from underserved communities, those in or aging out of foster care, and those vulnerable to human trafficking. The initiative aims to reach and positively impact the lives of the 1.3 million at-promise girls in Florida, providing them with the resources, mentorship, and support needed to make healthy choices and build brighter futures.

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

The Florida Girls Initiative (FGI) aims to actively engage youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in meaningful and constructive ways. FGI will measure its impact through intake and exit surveys, along with an independent evaluation conducted by Urban Markets and Analytics & the NGC Team, ensuring data-driven insights into the program's effectiveness.

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?

To ensure program effectiveness and integrity, FGI will complete the Department of Juvenile Justice's Corrective Action Plan and implement key accountability measures. Payments will be disbursed in phases, with funding withheld until deliverables and key performance indicators (KPIs) are met. Performance-based reductions will apply if goals or milestones are not achieved, impacting future funding. Additionally, contractors failing to fulfill deliverables must repay or reimburse funds as required.

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):

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

- Yes, Applied



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- 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)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College



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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.