



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3454

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

4. Project/Program Description

To fund structural and civil engineering, geotechnical studies, and site planning required for the safe restoration of the historic Switzerland Community Center. This work is essential for permitting, safety compliance, and future renovations that will allow the building to serve as a vocational training center and community hub.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?** Yes No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	70,000
Total State Funds Requested	70,000

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)	70,000	70%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	10,000	10%
Other	20,000	20%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	100,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes 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?** No Yes
- 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



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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? 10/1/25

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction? 6/30/26

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

Donations and fundraising

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.

The facility is owned by St Johns County. The entity requesting funding, Operation Lifeline, Inc, is entering into a contract with the County to renovate the structure and operate a training facility and community center on the premises.

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	Operation Lifeline Inc. requests \$70,000 for engineering and planning at the Switzerland Community Center, including \$20,000–\$30,000 for civil engineering, \$10,000–\$15,000 for surveying and geotechnical studies, \$10,000–\$25,000 for structural engineering and compliance design, and \$5,000–\$10,000 for X-ray or GPR scanning of CMU walls to ensure safety and compliance before renovation.	70,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		70,000

13. Program Performance

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

Engineering and design for restoration of the historic Switzerland Community Center

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



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Engineering and site planning for the Switzerland Community Center.

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

Community meeting spaces, educational programs, vocational training, and veteran support upon completion.

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

General use though the community center, Operation Lifeline is a non profit which teaches vocational skills as a service, then connects those skills with construction projects for veterans and the elderly. It is anticipated that we would serve over 800 people annually.

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

This project will preserve and repurpose a historically significant structure that has been a vital part of the Switzerland community for over a century. The center, which once served as a school and civic hub, has been vacant and deteriorating since 2005. Funding for engineering and planning will ensure the building's structural integrity and compliance with modern safety standards. Once restored, the Switzerland Community Center will serve as a vocational training facility, offering hands-on instruction in skilled trades such as construction, carpentry, electrical work, and general contracting. The project will also stimulate local economic growth by creating jobs in engineering, construction, and workforce training programs. Success will be measured by the number of residents utilizing community programs, attendance at educational workshops, and overall public engagement with center activities.

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?

Failing to meet deliverables or performance measures would result in repayment of funds allocated and impact future funding requests.

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

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
- 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:



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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
- 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



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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.