



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3484

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

A dedicated reentry hotline is needed to ensure that returning citizens receive support that leads to stable housing, job readiness training, employment, mental health and substance abuse services and more. Committed "Reentry Navigators" will be responsible for talking directly to returning citizens and people affected by the justice system providing case management services to help them connect to the resources they need to successfully reintegrate back into our communities. No other state has developed a dedicated "hotline" for returning citizens. This will be transformative for the entire state with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism and training an underutilized workforce to fill jobs in numerous industries.

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	1,300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	1,300,000

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)	1,300,000	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	1,300,000	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.

ONH will raise private funds and apply for federal and local grants as well.



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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	Call Center Director	75,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Call Center Supervisor (3 Full time) Call Center Reentry Navigators (8 - Full time)	1,100,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Training, Systems and Technology, Office Equipment and supplies, commercial rent and overhead	125,000
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)		1,300,000

13. Program Performance

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

A Reentry Navigator hotline is needed to ensure returning citizens receive support that leads to stable housing, job readiness training, employment, mental health services and more. Client services navigators will be responsible for talking directly to returning citizens and people affected by the justice system to help them connect to the resources they need. This will be transformative for the entire state with the ultimate goal of reducing recidivism and training an underutilized workforce.



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

- Statewide Call Center Developed: Dedicated Reentry Navigators – Extended service hours: 7 am – 12 am
- Navigators/Case Managers will capture data on each caller and provide a preliminary needs assessment
- * Citizens/callers will receive critical support, which will reduce recidivism and help with employment connections
- A user-friendly website and text message system to further support the hotline
- Navigators will be responsible for constant resource updates for all Florida counties

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

- Dedicated Call Center – Extended service hours: 7 am – 12 am
- Access to critical job training and job placement resources
- Connections to affordable stable housing
- Access to mental health and substance abuse services
- Connections to needed resources - food, clothing, vital documents, etc.

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

Returning Citizens, Justice Affected Citizens, At Risk Individuals, Former Inmates, People Struggle with Substance Abuse

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

- Reduced Recidivism: Timely access to essential services decreases reoffending, which benefits public safety and reduces strain on the justice system. Callers will receive personalized assistance with essential resources like housing, employment, and mental health, improving their chances of successful reintegration.
- Economic Growth: The call center creates jobs and supports returning citizens looking for training and job placement. Many industries are desperate for trained workers and returning citizens are often overlooked, the call center will vet and connect them to training and employment opportunities. When someone from this community receives an opportunity at a second chance, individuals and families strengthen their financial health and communities stabilize.

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?

Long term penalizes such as inability to apply for future state project funding and claw back provisions would be considered.

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



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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
- Other (please specify)

d. First Name **Last Name**



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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.