



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 3485

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

4. Project/Program Description

With over 25 years of experience in providing job readiness training and reentry services throughout Florida, Operation New Hope is the leader in the field. Traditionally, we have helped people affected by the justice system reenter the workforce through job training, case management, mental health/substance abuse services, employment placement, and financial assistance. Our programs build stronger communities by creating opportunities for our clients to become productive, responsible citizens that save taxpayers millions of dollars by avoiding repeated high costs of incarceration. We are requesting that the \$2,775,000 in nonrecurring funds from 2024/25 be converted recurring funds in this year's budget.

We are requesting an additional \$4 million this budget year to open two new workforce training sites. ONH is evaluating sites in Polk, Leon, and Broward Counties. Each new site will serve between 300 to 500 clients a year and cost approx \$2 million per location.

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	4,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	4,000,000

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)	4,000,000	22%
Matching Funds		
Federal	600,000	3%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	11,000,000	59%
Local	2,300,000	12%
Other	700,000	4%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	18,600,000	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		
2024-25	8,225,000	2,775,000	763	No

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

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.

N/A

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	ONH programs provide pre and post release services to people affected by the justice system including case management, transition planning, housing, job readiness training, employment placement, mental health services and substance abuse prevention. ONH directly support our local and state economies – helping meet workforce demands, lowering unemployment rates, and generating new income and sales tax revenue.	4,000,000
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)		4,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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ONH focuses on teaching self-sufficiency and life skills to our clients through our various programs and services. From identifying opportunities for employment to providing mental health counseling, we help our clients develop positive relationships and better manage their finances and lives. Our programs prevent crime, reduce recidivism and directly connect people to workforce training programs that focus on the introduction of new technologies, updated service standards/procedures, workplace literacy, and upskilling workers to meet the demands of ever evolving industries.

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

Funding from this request will allow ONH to serve over 5,000 people over the next year through our various programs. Clients will be identified pre- and post-release to receive our reentry services and will be assessed to create individualized plans of care and industry specific training, receive holistic support for a full year, and be placed in living wage employment with opportunities for advancement. We provide training in relevant career- pathway skills to meet the needs of modern industry. We deliver wrap-around services that support long-term success and build self-sufficiency.

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

Implementing a comprehensive approach (case management, mental health therapy, supportive services, job training, and job placement assistance), Our programs ensure each client succeeds. Each client is paired with a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, Case Manager, and Job Coach who provide support for a full year tailored to meet individual needs and goals. Participants are required to remain drug-free and attend 3 weeks of a comprehensive Career Development training program featuring life skills, employment readiness, financial literacy, and a technology bootcamp. Career Development focuses on interpersonal skills, self-sufficiency, coping strategies, communication, employability, and job retention. Clients also receive support with vocational training, housing and help with resources like clothing, food and vital documents.

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?

People affected by the justice system or at risk face a multitude of barriers including lack of housing, transportation, job skills training, and employment opportunities. Without adequate housing, transportation, and employment, people are less connected to their communities and therefore, far more likely to commit crime or re-offend. By focusing on prevention, diversion, and intervention, ONH helps to reduce disciplinary and criminal justice involvement and provides individuals and families with tools for long-term success. Education, Case Management and Employment Opportunities reduce recidivism, corrections costs and reduce unemployment rates. Investing in prevention programs creates tax paying citizens, hence increasing tax revenues (income and sales).

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?



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- 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)
- 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.