



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1398

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

4. Project/Program Description

Building Homes for Heroes will continue its mission of rebuilding lives for many Florida veterans who have honorably served and returned home tragically injured. To achieve this, we will help a minimum of 25 injured veterans -- and as many as 50 -- gain or maintain housing. With the state of inflation and the economy causing struggles for everyday Americans, our injured veterans are struggling more than ever. We will prioritize injured Florida veterans whose lives have been altered by emergencies, economic struggles, weather-related disasters, and any difficulties they already face transitioning from military to civilian life, including but not limited to mold remediation from water damage, mortgage-payments, taxes, home repairs caused by storm damage, temporary housing expenses for displaced veterans, utilities, insurance deductibles, home modifications to increase accessibility, and gifting mortgage-free homes, when feasible, for injured veterans to own, live in and recover in.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,000,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	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 2024-2025	1,000,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	1,000,000	2236A	No

9. Is future 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.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1398

Building Homes for Heroes is fortunate to receive funding from individual donors, foundations, and corporations like Lowe's, Advance Auto Parts, Chase, SAIC and more. But with Florida being such a well-known veteran-friendly state, any Florida funds would allow us to devote even more assistance and resources towards Florida veterans, of which we have much demand.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

We received approximately \$816,000 through the Payroll Protection Program and Employee Retention Tax Credit to keep our organization fully staffed so that we could continue to help our nation's injured veterans during the pandemic. Already among our nation's most vulnerable residents, we proudly sent \$250 checks to hundreds of veterans and their families to help them with essential goods during that trying time.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. 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?

12. 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.

Our program would involve multiple construction projects where construction would likely begin prior to the grant period. All construction projects would be on homes either currently owned by veterans, or to be gifted to veterans to own.

13. 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: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1398

Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering	Our program would involve multiple construction projects where construction would likely begin prior to the grant period. All construction projects would be on homes either currently owned by veterans, or to be gifted to veterans to own.	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

14. Program Performance

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

Our specific goal will be to keep injured Florida veterans housed by helping them gain or maintain their homes, build or modify homes, or help displaced veterans with temporary housing. With \$1 million, we would help a minimum of 25 injured veterans and their families, with a return on investment of at least \$2 million to the State of Florida. But our goal would be to help as many as 50 injured veterans and their families, with a return of investment potentially reaching \$3 million. This would be a terrific continuation of the partnership between building Homes for Heroes and the Great State of Florida to show that our veterans are appreciated and cared for in return for their selfless service and sacrifice to our nation.

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

Building Homes for Heroes has a vast network of veteran applicants exceeding 5,000 who are currently asking for our help. We currently are aware of 24 injured Florida veterans in need of assistance who we can begin helping the moment this grant process begins. We would also expand our network to help more veterans in Florida who are in need to maximize the amount of veterans we are helping. As mentioned, all projects will focus on keeping veterans housed. We will work with the veterans to make sure these funds go directly to help them remain housed.

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

We will prioritize injured Florida veterans who are struggling with their physical and mental injuries and who whose lives have been altered by emergencies, economic struggles, weather-related disasters, and any difficulties they already face transitioning from military to civilian life, including but not limited to mold remediation from water damage, mortgage-payments, taxes, home repairs caused by storm damage, temporary housing expenses for displaced veterans, utilities, insurance deductibles, home modifications to increase accessibility, and gifting mortgage-free homes for injured veterans to own, live in and recover in.

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

The most direct benefactor will be the Florida veterans for whom we will be helping with home repairs and emergency funding. We will help a minimum of 25 Florida veterans and their family members. Hundreds of Florida residents, including contractors and vendors, will also see a benefit as a result of economic advancement through increased employment opportunities, elevated property values and improved infrastructure. And while we would help a minimum of 25, our our goal would be to help as many as 50 injured veterans and their families. Most of our veteran recipients already struggle with paralysis, missing limbs, blindness, TBI, PTSD, cancer and many more service-related injuries.

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

The methodology will be the number of veterans we help with housing. We will aim to help a minimum of 25 Florida veterans and their families with a return on investment of at least \$2 million to the State of Florida. But our goal would be to help as many as 50 injured veterans and their families, with a return of investment potentially reaching \$3 million. The methodology will be the return on investment we bring to the Florida economy, as well as the return on life we will provide to continue our mission to build better and brighter lives for our injured veterans.

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 the contract?

We would recommend the same penalty from previous years' grant requests: With our plan to help a minimum of 25 veterans, we recommend a penalty of \$40,000 per veteran we fail to help. But with the hope of helping more than 25 veterans, please know we have every intention of fulfilling all of our contract obligations

15. Requester Contact Information



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1398

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

16. 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number