



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2550

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Best Buddies Jobs program represents one of our organization's four key mission pillars, Integrated Employment. This program secures jobs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), allowing them to earn an income. The Best Buddies Jobs program places focus beyond the typical jobs in which a person with IDD might be placed. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents. In FY25, the Best Buddies Jobs Project will provide services to place 50 adults in jobs, deliver 20 trainings on hiring people with disabilities to potential employers, and develop 28 new employer partners across the state. Expand into jobs market by engaging employer partners with a commitment to hire.

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	400,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	400,000

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)	400,000	37%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	350,000	32%
Local	43,000	4%
Other	300,000	27%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	1,093,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	400,000	86	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.

In lieu of state funding, Best Buddies would have to reduce the scale of the project scope and raise funds through a combination of private dollars generated through fundraising, individual giving, and foundations.



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

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

Best Buddies in Florida received \$303,741.60 in federal assistance in 2020. This funding covered operating costs as revenue declined due to the cancellation of in-person fundraisers during the pandemic.

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.

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	\$32,000 in Recurring Funds: These funds are used by Best Buddies International to oversee the administrative and management needs of our state offices. The allocation for funds is approximately: Professional Services - 53% includes BB website and database maintenance, state development, education and training etc; Accounting - 16%; HR/Legal - 15%; IT - 8%; Executive - oversight of programming 8%	32,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	\$336,840 in Recurring Funds: 5 FTE - Employment Consultants in six area offices; 1.25 FTE - two Directors of Jobs; 0.2 FTE State Director, 0.4 FTE - Transitions Supervisor, 0.35 FTE - Deputy Director, Jobs; FICA, Group Health, Unemployment, Workers Comp, Retirement/Other Benefits calculated at 22.86% of salaries	336,840
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	\$31,160 in Recurring Funds: Equipment, Leadership Conference, Office Space/ Utilities, Materials & Supplies, Telecommunication	31,160
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0



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Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		400,000

14. Program Performance

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

This funding will prepare students and young adults with intellectual disabilities for transition to the workplace or post-secondary education. The funds will be used to educate employers on the benefits of employing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, educate families on post-secondary options, and place individuals with disabilities in jobs that pay at or above minimum wage.

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

Best Buddies will provide services to place 50 adults in jobs, deliver 20 trainings on hiring people with disabilities to potential employers, and develop 28 new employer partners across the state. Expand into jobs market by engaging employer partners with a commitment to hire.

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

The direct services provided will be person-centered, individualized support to prepare participants for employment, placement, job coaching after placement, and follow along services to ensure long-term success.

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

The target population for the FY25 Best Buddies Job Project are individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities seeking employment. In FY25, Best Buddies anticipates serving 50 individuals with disabilities age 18 and up.

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

The FY25 Best Buddies Jobs Project will create more inclusive workplaces for employees with disabilities by engaging and educating new employer partners and placing adults with IDD in competitive, inclusive jobs. Best Buddies staff will utilize Set-Works, an internal case-management system, to track project activities and manage participant records. Project outcomes will be measured using Set-Works data reports, periodic progress reports, and the Best Buddies annual survey which is distributed to program participants, supervisors, and employer partners.

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?

Financial consequences for each missed deliverable per quarter: \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q1, \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q2, \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q3, and \$250 per missed training; \$50 per missed job placement in Q4.

15. Requester Contact Information

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



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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