



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2598

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Funding would allow Peace River Center to purchase an existing building to create a more permanent and sustainable location for our Highlands County domestic violence shelter. The existing shelter, leased from the Board of County Commissioners, was built in 1965 and has never been fully renovated or brought up to date. A new facility will allow for future expansion in order to serve more survivors of domestic violence in Highlands and Hardee counties.

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	900,000
Total State Funds Requested	900,000

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)	900,000	82%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	200,000	18%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	1,100,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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.

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.



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Paycheck Protection Program funds (\$3,655,580) used to pay salary expense for staff. U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (\$157,466) for lost program service revenue used to pay for operating expenses.

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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

October 2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

June 2025

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.

Peace River Center for Personal Development.

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:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Purchase and renovate an existing facility for use as a domestic violence shelter in Highlands County.	900,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		900,000

14. Program Performance

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

The purpose of funds is to purchase a more permanent and sustainable location for our Highlands County domestic violence shelter. Peace River Center (PRC) leases the current shelter property from the Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County. The shelter was built in 1965 and has never undergone a full renovation. We are thankful for the County providing us with the space for all of these years, but we are looking for a facility that allows for future expansion.

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



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PRC will purchase an existing facility to better serve individuals escaping domestic violence. Currently, the shelter houses 22 individuals and is located in a commercial area without the ability for future expansion to meet the growing need. The purchased facility will provide a more healing environment and comprehensive victim services.

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

The purchased facility would serve as the emergency domestic violence shelter. This facility would allow much-needed services such as counseling, a 24-hour hotline, safety planning, survivor support groups, assessment of children, and courthouse advocacy. These services allow survivors to focus on healing and a life independent of their abuser.

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

The shelter focuses on survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. The target population are those women and children that are the victims of domestic violence. In any given year, more than 200 individuals are served by the Peace River Center Domestic Violence Shelter.

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

The shelter will help to protect the general public from harm, reduce recidivism in domestic violence and improve the mental health and economic self sufficiency of its target population. The shelter's location is confidential and implements multiple safety protocols to keep the victims safe from their abusers. Survivors receive behavioral health services as well as individualized goal plans that include means of finding work or education to improve their economic condition and achieve a level of income to enable the survivor to live a sustainable life independent of their abuser.

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?

Failure to meet deliverables outlined in this request would result in return of funds.

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

c. Organization Type

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (please specify)



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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