



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1035

1. **Title of Project:** Foster Family Recruitment & Stability Project

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Kevin Rader

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/01/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The 4KIDS Foster Family Recruitment and Stability Project is purposed with recruiting new foster families and retaining existing families. Since 1997, 4KIDS has successfully recruited more than 1,200 foster families through strategic recruitment activities. These families provide safe and stable homes to children who have been removed from their biological families due to abuse, abandonment, and neglect. To aid in their placement stability, 4KIDS provides families with therapeutic services to support the child and family.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Children and Families

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	100.0%
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19		495,000	313A	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 1000000

10. **Details on how the requested state funds will be expended**



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Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	To cover the cost of staff members responsible for foster parent recruitment, training and licensing, and therapy program oversight and strategy.	840,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Computers, cell phones, cybersecurity, staff training and development, life scan clearances for foster parents and caregivers.	160,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

The 4KIDS Foster Parent Recruitment and Stability Project will support the recruitment and licensing of foster families in FY 2019-2020, resulting in up to 100 new foster families and ultimately reducing the number of children in group care in circuits 15, 17, and 19. Additionally, this project will positively affect the stability of existing foster care placements resulting in a stability rate of 3.09 or less moves per 1,000 days in care (a 25% reduction in moves compared to the current State of Florida goal of 4.12 as of 1/30/19).

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

The 4KIDS Community Engagement Team will continue to build partnerships with local churches and research new opportunities to engage the church community to recruit foster families. The team will engage, educate, and encourage potential foster families through presentations on the need for foster parents and will also host information sessions on the foster parent training and licensing process. The outreach strategy includes making face to face visits with individual church leaders to set up opportunities for presentations at church services, small groups, and all community reaching events. We will also provide regularly occurring trauma-informed care training for foster parents, and 1:1 therapeutic services for children and families as needed.

**c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?**

The Foster Parent Recruitment and Stability Project will result in the provision of more quality foster homes for children who have suffered from abuse, abandonment, and neglect. Children will be safe and living in a healthy environment. Additionally, each of the licensed foster parents will be offered training on how to provide



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trauma-informed therapeutic care to the children in their home in addition to 1:1 therapy sessions with a licensed therapist. Thus, the foster parents will be equipped to provide a care system centered around their emotional, physical, intellectual, and character needs. This will have a positive impact on the placement stability as foster families will feel more supported and able to handle the difficulties that come with caring for children from hard places.

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

The Foster Parent Recruitment and Stability Project will serve children between the ages of 0-17 entering and currently in foster care in circuits 15, 17, and 19. An estimated 120 children will be served by up to 100 new foster families created by the project annually. Hundreds of children and families will receive trauma-informed care and/or training.

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

This project will lead to the recruitment and licensing of up to 100 new foster parents in circuit 15, 17, and 19. The project will also benefit licensed foster families by supporting them through therapeutic services, including child therapy, family therapy, and parent training on trauma-informed care. 4KIDS expects that the placement stability rate of families receiving therapeutic care will increase as compared to the current State goal of 4.12 to a maximum of 3.09 moves per 1,000 days in care. 4KIDS' Extended Reach database will be used to record and measure our ability to achieve the intended outcomes. The financial benefit to the State of Florida can be enormous--research from the University of North Carolina's Jordan Institute for Families found that group placements cost 7 to 10 times the cost of placing a child with a family.

**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?**

A reduction in the amount of allocation based on the actual number of foster families recruited and licensed.

**12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.**

n/a

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Kevin Enders
- b. **Organization:** 4KIDS of South Florida
- c. **E-mail Address:** KevinE@4KIDSofSFL.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)590-1576

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** 4KIDS of South Florida
- b. **County:** Broward
- c. **Organization Type:**
  - For Profit
  - Non Profit 501(c) (3)



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- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Entity
- University or College
- Other (Please specify)

**d. Contact Name:** Thomas Lukasik

**e. E-mail Address:** TomL@4KIDSofSFL.org

**f. Phone Number:** (954)590-1531

#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

**a. Name:** Amy Bisceglia

**b. Firm Name:** Rubin Group

**c. E-mail Address:** amy@rubingroup.com

**d. Phone Number:** (813)361-4805