



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1932

**1. Title of Project:** Health and Safety of Our Youth - Youth and Family Alternatives (YFA)

**2. Senate Sponsor:** Ed Hooper

**3. Date of Submission:** 02/25/2019

**4. Project/Program Description:**

Youth and Family Alternatives (YFA) maintains and manages three short-term crisis shelters for youth ages 10-17 who are runaway, homeless, need an out-of-home respite due to family conflict, need emergency shelter due to abuse/neglect or a foster home disruption. The Pasco County shelter, Runaway Alternative Project (RAP) House, is licensed as a child caring program for 20 beds, the Hernando County shelter, New Beginnings, is licensed for 18 beds, and the Polk County shelter, George Harris, is licensed for 24 beds. All YFA youth shelters serve both males and females for an average of 14 days, though time may vary depending on the youth's specific situation. YFA youth shelters provide safe shelter, counseling, case management, structured leisure activities, life skills, education services in collaboration with the local School Boards and RN staff that oversee medication and health related services for the youth.

**5. State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Juvenile Justice

State Agency Contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	
Fixed Capital Outlay	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>500,000</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)	500,000	100.00%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	0	0.00%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**8. Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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

**9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** No



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

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		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Runaway Alternative Project (RAP House) - \$158,000 George Harris Youth Shelters - \$189,500 New Beginnings Youth Shelters - \$152,500	500,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>500,000</b>

**11. Program Performance:**

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

YFA's oldest shelter, RAP House, has been open in its current location for 21 years. This shelter has reached the age where a new roof will be needed shortly, floors have taken the daily abuse of 20 years of pre-teen and teenagers, amenities to serve growing population needs is lacking and youth privacy and security is advancing in technology. RAP's sister shelters, New Beginnings and George Harris are a few years younger, but are in need of renovations. These renovations will ensure the safety and security of each shelter and the thousands of youth they serve annually.

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

YFA will work with local licensed vendors to receive quotes for necessary repairs and renovations to the shelters. Upon determination of a vendor, permits will be filed as needed and work will be overseen by YFA staff until completion. The result of these renovations and repairs will allow the thousands of youth that enter YFA shelters, the ability to receive shelter, case management, and counseling in a physically safe and secure environment.

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

As part of YFA's commitment to the safety of our youth and to the families served, the physical structure of the youth shelters and their amenities must be in sound working order, provide for a healthy environment for the youth, utilize space to its maximum capacity, and provide security and safety to the youth and shelter staff. As the capital investments of the shelters age, the ability to assure these basic necessities become costly.

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



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Youth and Family Alternatives maintains and manages 3 short-term crisis shelters for youth ages 10-17 who are runaway, homeless, need out-of-home respite due to family conflict, need emergency shelter due to abuse/neglect or foster home disruption. In FY 17-18, over 2,499 youth were referred to RAP House, New Beginnings and George Harris Youth Shelters and 1,900 were determined eligible for admission. As the population of our counties continues to grow and families continue to experience social and economic challenges, more children will be at-risk of abuse and neglect, school failure, involvement with law enforcement and juvenile justice, and the demand for programs such as the YFA youth shelters will continue to grow.

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

Renovations of YFA shelters will ensure that funds raised by the organization may go back into programming that will directly effect the youth it serves and not to costly renovations. Ensuring the safety of YFA youth is always the priority and by adding necessary equipment, such as an emergency generator, will allow youth to stay in their facility during local and state emergencies, providing them necessary stability during a time of high stress.

**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?**

Should YFA fail to reach the deliverables or perform below standards, the funds will be returned to the state.

**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.**

YFA is the owner of all three facilities. All funds provide through this request will go directly towards renovations of the shelters to provide direct services to the thousands of youth that reside there annually.

**13. Requestor Contact Information:**

- a. **Name:** Mark Wickham
- b. **Organization:** Youth and Family Alternatives
- c. **E-mail Address:** mwickham@yfainc.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (727)835-4166

**14. Recipient Contact Information:**

- a. **Organization:** Youth and Family Alternatives
- b. **County:** Statewide
- c. **Organization Type:**
  - For Profit
  - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
  - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
  - Local Entity
  - University or College
  - Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Mark Wickham



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e. **E-mail Address:** mwickham@yfainc.org

f. **Phone Number:** (727)835-4166

#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. **Name:** Sam Wagoner

b. **Firm Name:** Sunrise Consulting Group

c. **E-mail Address:** wagoner@scgroup.us

d. **Phone Number:** (352)584-8647