



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 2349

1. **Title of Project:** Exchange Club CASTLE Parent Aide

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Gayle Harrell

3. **Date of Submission:** 03/08/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of the Treasure Coast, Inc. (DBA: CASTLE) has provided child abuse prevention services to the Treasure Coast and Okeechobee since 1981. We are part of a national network of 72 such child abuse prevention (CAP) nonprofits founded by Exchange Club members in 26 states and Puerto Rico over the past 40 years. The primary program of service at all Exchange Club CAP Centers is the Parent Aide In-Home Parent Education and Mentoring program for families identified as at-risk for abuse and neglect. The program was developed by the National Exchange Club Foundation and its effectiveness proven through documented research. Under the guidance of the National Exchange Club Foundation, this research has led to the Parent Aide program being designated as an Evidenced Based program. On-going research on the effectiveness of the Parent Aide program was performed by DCF In March 2018 from one of CASTLE's sister centers in Duval County.

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	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>300,000</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)	300,000	73.79%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.00%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	106,550	26.21%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020</b>	<b>106,550</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?** Yes



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- a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. \$300,000

#### 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	Admin Costs are calculated at 11% - includes ED, Finance, HR & Admin.	33,304
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
<b>Operational Costs:</b>		
Salary and Benefits	3 parent Aide F/T (\$111,000), 1 Parent Aide Mgr (\$45,000), 2 P/T Peer Recovery Specialists (\$25,500), FICA and Worker's Comp (\$17,696), Benefits \$500/mo for 3 FTE's (\$18,000)	217,196
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mileage reimbursement \$25,500; Occupancy \$3,600; Technology \$3,600; Training/conferences \$4,400; Materials for families/workbooks \$3,000; Emergency Flex Funds for families enrolled in the program \$7,000	47,100
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Client Software	2,400
<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>300,000</b>

#### 11. Program Performance:

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

There are two primary goals for the funds requested: GOAL ONE is to help families stay safe and together, and to deter DCF intervention and removal of the child(ren) from the home. This funding will be used to increase staff in order to meet the needs of 100 additional families who will benefit from Parent Aide services but who do not qualify through Child Welfare Services unless or until the situation worsens and DCF must intervene. GOAL TWO is to contribute to research being conducted by the National Exchange Club Foundation to assist Parent Aide in achieving the final step in a 3-step process deeming the program 'Well-Supported' and thus qualified to access 100% of the Family First Prevention Funding Act funding which will ultimately lead to more matching federal funding for the State of Florida. None of the requested funds will be used to fund the actual research project.

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

Three full-time Parent Aides, and one part-time Parent Aide Supervisor will be added to our current staff thereby allowing us to provide Parent Aide services to an additional 100 families throughout the year. This



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equates to approximately 250 children served as historical data indicates an average of 2.5 children and 1.5 adults per household are served by CASTLE's Parent Aide program. All Parent Aide staff are certified in the Parent Aide model by the Director of our National Exchange Club Foundation Dept. of Prevention Services. The curricula used is evidence-based and trauma-informed and focuses on the prevention of physical abuse, neglect and working with adults to build safe and nurturing homes. CASTLE staff will visit each family weekly, in-home, for a minimum of 60 minutes and provide additional referrals to local service providers as needs are identified while working with the family.

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

Parent Aide prevention services are provided as a service to families experiencing issues which are often associated with the families of children removed from their home and placed in the foster care system. There has been much research over many years which reveal that even when conditions in a child's home are deemed unsafe, removal of the child is still a traumatic experience for the family to endure, especially for the child. Our services provide not only trauma-informed and evidence-based instructional curriculum and guidance on issues that all parents face, but Parent Aide staff seek to develop a trusting relationship with adults in the program, and to serve as a mentor and role model. In the coming year, CASTLE will add another dimension to our Parent Aide services by training Parent Aide staff in the 'Nurturing Families Through Substance Abuse Recovery and Treatment' curriculum, an evidence-based curriculum developed at the Institute of Health and Recovery in Massachusetts.

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

100 at-risk families. Families enrolled in CASTLE's Parent Aide program typically have 2.5 children per household, equating to an estimated 250 children; and 1.5 adults per household equating to 150 adults, totaling 400 individuals.

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

There are several benefits of the Parent Aide program, based on research and recently reviewed data. First and foremost, our goal is to keep families together and out of the foster care system. To that end, CASTLE has a long history of success with an overall 98% success rate in preventing initial or subsequent abuse of children in families that complete the Parent Aide program. Secondly, the Parent Aide model indicates highest level of success when parents complete a minimum of 6 months in the program. With this funding we will provide services to a minimum of 100 additional families for 6 – 12 months as indicated by an Initial Needs Assessment completed during the initial visit with the family. Program success will also be measured using: 1) Pre- and post- AAPI evaluations; 2) Completion of at least six months in the program, and 3) Parent achievement of Family Plan goals.

**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?**

Failure to meet deliverables without notification and valid reason will result in financial penalties as described in the contract.

**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.**



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N/A

#### 13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Christopher Robertson
- b. **Organization:** Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of the Treasure Coast (DBA CASTLE)
- c. **E-mail Address:** crobertson@castleetc.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (772)465-6011

#### 14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of the Treasure Coast (DBA CASTLE)
- b. **County:** Saint Lucie
- 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:** Christopher Robertson
- e. **E-mail Address:** crobertson@castleetc.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (772)465-6011

#### 15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Nicholas G. Matthews
- b. **Firm Name:** Becker Law
- c. **E-mail Address:** NMatthews@beckerlawyers.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (954)987-7550