



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1633

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

4. **Project/Program Description**

The addition of three preschool classrooms and therapy areas specifically designed to meet the needs of children aged 2-5 who are on the Autism Spectrum or who have severe behavior concerns. An additional 30-40 children would be served in these classrooms. Many children are dismissed over and over by preschools not equipped to take children with challenging behaviors. Discovery Learning Center is a place where families are not turned away and their children receive the services they need.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?     Yes     No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="000"/>
Fixed Capital Outlay	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="925,000"/>
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>925,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="925000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="100.0"/> %
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Local	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
Other	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="0"/> %
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021</b>	<b>925,000</b>	<b>100</b> %

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**     Yes     No
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="2019-20"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="00"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text" value="600,000"/>	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?**     Yes     No
- If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.



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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: Other</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	Appropriations Request Estimates for Rebuilding Building at Discovery Learning Center to house new wing with children's autism classrooms and therapy center:  • Construction costs, including site work, landscaping, complete finished building and fixtures - \$925,000.00 Construction Costs alone can range between \$175SF - \$300SF	925,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		925,000



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#### 11. Program Performance

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

The addition of three preschool classrooms and therapy areas specifically designed to meet the needs of children aged 2-5 who are on the Autism Spectrum or who have severe behavior concerns. An additional 30-40 children would be served in these classrooms. Many children are dismissed over and over by preschools not equipped to take children with challenging behaviors. Discovery Learning Center is a place where families are not turned away and their children receive the services they need.

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

PARC Discovery Learning Center is the ONLY child care provider in Pinellas County of accessible Early Intervention Services to children with developmental disabilities, including those diagnosed with and/or "at-risk" for developmental delays, behavior concerns and autism. The center serves children from 2 mo to 5 years. The Discovery Learning Center utilizes experienced early intervention, therapeutic and support staff to provide universal education and inclusive intervention services. We are also unique in that we provide on-site occupational, physical, speech and behavior therapies for children in need of these services. Discovery Learning Center provides a high-quality program with low student/teacher ratios, experienced highly trained staff, nursing services, and therapeutic services. Most of our children come from low-income families with much greater needs than just child care services. We work to integrate services for the family as a whole to help to achieve greater outcomes.

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

Direct services to families with children on the Autism Spectrum will include ABA therapy and behavior services. Family involvement is essential for maximum success. The services will be provided by trained teachers, assistant teachers, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, Registered Behavior Technicians and supporting staff.

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

Developmentally disabled, Physically disabled, Preschool students, Grade school students.  
25-50.

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

Improve mental health - We measure the effectiveness of intervention by collecting data on each individual's problem behavior and acquisition of adaptive skills before and after treatment. We can analyze that data collectively to determine how clients are being affected by the treatment.  
Enrich cultural experience - We can measure this by obtaining demographics information from the individuals we serve.  
Improve quality of education - We will obtain report cards/IEP updates from the school of each of our clients in order to measure this outcome.  
Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.) - Behavior analysts are often notified of these incidents from caregivers or incident reports that have been shared. We will utilize these documents to measure this objective.

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?

Reversion of funds.



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12. **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.**

Same/PARC, Inc.

13. **Requestor Contact Information**

- a. First Name  Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.

14. **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)
- d. First Name  Last Name
- e. E-mail Address
- f. Phone Number

15. **Lobbyist Contact Information**

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.