



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1041

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Children’s Healing Institute proposes to expand their child abuse prevention efforts in Palm Beach County and Broward County by providing in-home evidenced based Exchange Parent Aide (PA) services to 60 families (144 children/120 adults) who are at-risk, underserved populations identified by the Department of Children and Families or our local community partners. Parent Aide is an intensive home-visitation parent education/support program available to any family with children ages 18 or younger in the home, meeting weekly for a period of 6-18 months. The goal is to increase family protective factors such as parent resilience, strong social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and child social and emotional competence. Parent Aide is provided at no cost and seeks to reduce the number of children placed in out-of-home care. The average cost of foster care is \$105,000 per child/per year vs. \$1,500 per child/year for Parent Aide.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**
- State Agency contacted?**

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	259,257
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	259,257

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	259,257	49%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	265,377	51%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	524,634	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.**



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The agency would seek grant funding in Broward County to cover the expansion as well as increase our fundraising efforts. Grants are more likely to be awarded for an established program with data showing results.

10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes

If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

\$68,000. Funds were used for payroll and to compensate for the loss of funds due to cancelled events and change in grants.

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

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

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.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	.20 Chief Program Officer @ \$12,623 .15 CEO @ \$14,508	27,131
Other Salary and Benefits	.20 COO/Program Outreach Officer @ \$17,050	17,050
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting & Audit	10,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	2 FTE Degreed Parent Aide @ \$43,000 + benefits @ 22% = \$104,920; 1 FTE Parent Aide Coordinator/Navigator @ \$45,000 + benefits @ 22% = \$54,900	159,820
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mileage for 3 FTE \$7,056; 3 Computers \$4,500; 3 Cell phones \$2,400; Training \$2,500; Occupancy & Utilities \$20,000; Office Supplies \$800; Equipment Lease \$3,000; Emergency Funds for Families \$5,000	45,256
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		259,257

14. Program Performance

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

The requested funds will be used to expand an evidenced based nationally recognized parent education program for parents who are at risk of or have abused or neglected their children. Specifically, funds would provide for prevention services to 60 families, in Palm Beach/ Broward County, equating to 144 children/120 adults for 6-18 months. Research shows that children of parents grappling with such deficits as mental illness, poverty, improper housing, lack of education, social isolation are at a heightened risk for abuse and neglect. In Palm Beach County alone, over 1,100 children are victims of abuse each year, with 54 children entering foster care monthly. The program would reduce the likelihood of child maltreatment, DCF involvement, and child removal from the home as well as reducing the financial burden to the state for the intervention costs of child abuse. As of November 2020 there were an estimated 22,510 children in out of home placements. The out of home placement per child

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

Parent Aides will be recruited, trained, and professionally supervised. Currently the Parent Aide Program accepts referrals from DCF/Child Net in Palm Beach County and the same system will be expanded to Broward County. Referred families will be screened for program eligibility. Eligible families will complete Initial Needs Assessment; Adverse Childhood Experience Questionnaire; Development of a Family Plan (identifying service goals); and Administration of evaluation tools (e.g.AAPI, Protective Factor Survey). Education and support services will be delivered weekly for 60-90 minutes for a minimum of 6 months. Data will be collected to assess program impact and success.

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

Parents who are at risk for neglecting or abusing their children will have access to Parent Aide prevention services that will provide in-home weekly visits to families with children 0- 17 yrs of age in the target populations. Services include: needs assessment, goal setting, in-home parenting support, connection to community resources, and education. Professionally trained Parent Aide Facilitators will visit the home weekly for 90 minutes and provide parent education curriculum, make referrals to other community services as needed, provide information about natural stress reduction methods, and if relevant, work with the family on safety planning in the the event someone in the home is in substance abuse recovery and therefore at danger of relapse. Services will be offered for a period of 6 to 12 months as outlined in the evidenced based Parent Aide model. All services are designed to assist the families with providing a safe and nurturing environment for their children.

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

Project will serve families residing in Palm Beach/Broward County with at least one child age 17 years or younger with 1: Continued high risk concerns post reunification and initial completion of Community Based Care; 2. High risk behaviors as assessed by DCF but whose children are not removed from the home. Both areas of concern are high priority needs identified by the CBC and DCF and represent populations not currently serviced by CBC agencies due to lack of sufficient funding. Services will be provided to 60 families (approximately 144 children and 120 adults) in Palm Beach/Broward County as recommended by the District DCF office. Preventing children for entering or reentering foster-care will save the State of Florida valuable resources and prevent trauma experienced by the child when removed from their parents home.

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

Research on the Parent Aide model indicates highest level of success when parents complete a minimum of 6 months in the program. Program success is measured against: 1. Pre/post evaluations; 2. Completion of at least 6 months in the program 3. Parent achievement of Family Plan goals and relevant outcomes in adaptive skills/strategies; awareness and access of supports, effective discipline, and child safety. 4. Absence of child maltreatment or the need for DCF intervention for families enrolled in the Parent Aide program. Parent Aide Facilitator will administer the Protective Factors Survey(PFS) and the AAPI. The PFS measures protective factors in the following 5 areas: Family Functioning, Social Support, Concrete Support, Nurturing & Attachment, and Knowledge of Parenting/Child Development. The AAPI is an inventory designed to assess the parenting and child rearing attitudes of adolescents and adult parent and pre-parent populations.



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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?

If we fail to provide in-home parenting services as described in our evidenced based model, we are willing to negotiate 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)

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