



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 1162

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The American Garden Youth Initiative is designed to install gardens at K-12 schools as a means of providing an education that assures the agrarian resilience, interest, and abilities of young Americans in undeserved communities. For instance, 67% of students in Orange County are on free and reduced lunch. 15.7% of Florida's children struggle with hunger, that's 1 in 7. We will teach students at K-12 schools to farm, principles of entrepreneurship, executive functioning skills, and basic gardening. This program will address issues of providing this education to students.

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	915,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	915,000

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)	915,000	17%
Matching Funds		
Federal	250,000	4%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	4,500,000	79%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	5,665,000	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.

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



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LFIR # 1162

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

We received two PPP loans. One in 2020 (55,062.62) and the other in 2021 (\$59,090.02). We are in 100% compliance with the DEO and utilized 100% of the funds to pay staff in the approved manner. Both loans have been forgiven and confirmed in writing by DEO.

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	Chief Branch Officer to oversee project	65,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	In state travel for execution of the project by IDEAS For Us Staff	15,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting and Audit Services for State Compliance	25,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Staff working to build gardens and teach curriculum. Staff will be graduated students issued certificates to now take on jobs installing gardens around Central Florida.	400,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Farming and garden materials.	410,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		915,000

14. Program Performance

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

Build 25 Gardens and provide an educational benefit for a minimum of 5,000 students, though we predict the number to be closer to 20,000 students.



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LFIR # 1162

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

Education, farming lessons, principles of entrepreneurship, finances 101, executive functioning skills. Emphasize connections to greater communities in and around their campus.

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

Food donations. Education and farming supplies (Plants, seeds, plant starts).

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

K-12 Students in Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Lake, and Polk Counties. Between 3,000 - 20,000 individuals.

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

Students will gain the ability to grow food, understand farming, and develop access to healthy and nutritious food.

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?

Standard penalties are adequate and IDEAS For Us will achieve project goals regardless of costs outside of current grant.

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



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LFIR # 1162

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name	<input type="text" value="Yolanda Cash Jackson"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Becker & Poliakoff PA"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="yjackson@beckerlawyers.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(954)985-4132"/>