



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

LFIR # 2080

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

4. Project/Program Description

RCMA was designated as the State's Sixth School of Hope this past year by the State Board of Education. As a result of incredible honor, RCMA will be looking to expand their charter schools into Polk County to open a K-8 School of Hope on their Mulberry Child Development Campus. Located at 4441 Academy Dr. Mulberry, the facility is on septic and about 1.5 miles from the nearest force main. Per the Polk County Land Development Code, any new facilities must be connected to water and wastewater. As a result, RCMA is looking for state support to serve the current 150 kids they have in daycares to five hundred with their K-8 charter school. RCMA is looking for a state appropriation of \$350,000 to add an Onsite Treatment System (Onsyte PErformance) which would satisfy the Polk County LDC for wastewater connections.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	350,000
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	350,000	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.**
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10. **Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**



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Yes

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

Total from: ARP, CRRSA, CARES, Ohase V, Phase VI ESSER 1,2,3, NSF Covid Fund = \$11,432,070.40

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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	RCMA is looking for a state appropriation of \$350,000 to add an Onsite Treatment System (Onsyte performace) which would satisfy the Polk County LDC for wastewater connections.	350,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

14. Program Performance

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



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RCMA's existing property in Mulberry, which provides early childhood education to 150 children and is an active hub of community support, to a campus by adding a new K-8th grade charter school. The new school will bring at least 100 new jobs to rural Polk County and develop the workforce needed to sustain some of Florida's Targeted Industries. As part of future development plans, RCMA dreams of adding affordable housing units on the campus that could provide convenient homes for teachers, families, and perhaps even seniors. The funds would allow them to build the school by satisfying the LDC requirement of the school being connected to waste water. It would also remove the current septic tank and be a much cleaner system. A miniature wastewater treatment unit is installed underground at a residence to provide sewer service. The computer allows the utility to monitor and operate the treatment unit from a remote location.

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

RCMA will be operating their current child development center as they are part of the state's early learning coalitions and would also operate a K-8 School for Hope Charter School. As they are now the state's sixth school of hope.

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

The funds will go towards to an onsite treatment system which will allow the RCMA Mulberry campus to be able to have a K-8. The school will serve 150 students grades K-8 and be a natural feeder population from the child development center. The site is the hub of the migrant population for Polk and will provide citizens with a dual language K-8 charter school.

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

150 Students grades k-8 as well as students in RCMA's child development center.

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

Connection to waste water. The school would be allowed to open. Outcome will be measured by CO with Polk County and Polk County Schools.

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?

repayment 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



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- 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

Please complete the questions below for Water Projects only.

18. Have you applied for alternative state funding?

- Waste Water Revolving Loan
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan
- Small Community Wastewater Treatment Grant
- Other (please specify)
- N/A

19. What is the population economic status?

- Financially Disadvantaged Community (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Financially Disadvantaged Municipality (ch. 62-552, F.A.C)
- Rural Area of Economic Concern
- Rural Area of Opportunity (s. 288.0656, Florida Statutes)
- N/A

20. What is the status of construction?

21. What percentage of the construction has been completed?

22. What is the estimated completion date of construction?



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8/01/2024