



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** Youth Empowerment Program

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Anitere Flores

3. **Date of Submission:** 12/04/2017

4. **Project/Program Description:**

The Youth Empowerment Program(YEP) implemented by The Motivational Edge (ME) will leverage its existing program sites and Social Enterprise Model as training grounds for teenagers, graduating high school seniors and youth transitioning out of the foster care system. The YEP will combine ME's unique Arts Based Youth Development offered to hundreds of youth across Miami Dade, while pairing it with job development and readiness skills for older teens, giving them actual wage-earning and career building opportunities while keeping kids of all ages off the streets. The main components of this program are specialized art services, mentoring, job readiness and life-skills development. ME's programming for teenagers naturally promotes career exploration, internship opportunities, and a wide variety of knowledge, including career readiness skills and the soft skills that employers look for in entry-level workers.

5. **State Agency Contacted?** No

a. If yes, which state agency?

b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested?
Department of Children and Families

6. **Amount of Non-recurring Requested for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Amount Requested for Operations	Amount Requested for Fixed Capital Outlay	Total Amount of Requested State Funds
500,000		500,000

7. **Type, amount and percent of matching funds available for this project for fiscal year 2018-19:**

Type	Amount	Percent
Federal	0	0.0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0.0%
Local	75,000	12.5%
Other	25,000	4.2%
TOTAL	100,000	16.7 %

8. **Total Project Cost for fiscal year 2018-19 (including the Total Amount of Requested State Funds):** 600,000



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9. Previous Year Funding Details:

- Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)
- What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- Complete the following Worksheet.

FY:	Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY 2017-18 (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)		
	Column:	A	B
Funds Description:		Prior Year Recurring Funds *	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds *
Input Amounts:			Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B)

10. Is future-year funding likely to be requested?

No

11. Program Performance:

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

Through the YEP, over 250 young people will participate in Arts Based Youth Development during OST, acting as a preventative and developmental initiative targeting cost avoidance via decreased juvenile delinquency and increased constructive, career driven programming. During the program, older teens will focus on employability skills; comprehensive social and other support services (e.g., mentoring, job placement, academic advising) with early work experiences (such as paid employment or internships) creating job opportunities within the community. Another intended outcome is to create a pool of employable youth for the community.

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

The YEP will combine The Motivational Edge (ME) unique Arts Based Youth Development program offered to hundreds of youth across Miami-Dade, while pairing it with job development and readiness skills for older teens, giving them actual wage-earning and career building opportunities while keeping kids of all ages off the streets. Services will include The Motivational Edge's Arts Based Youth Development which encompasses various art forms, including The Art of Creative Writing & Lyrical Expression, Audio Recording, Urban Arts Expression and Dance Expression, and intertwines life-skills development, mentoring and job readiness within each.

c. How will the funds be expended?

Spending Category	Description	Amount
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Administrative Costs		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Program Director/Compliance Officer	30,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits	Art Director	20,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Communications and other services	10,000
Operational Costs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Music equipment, art supplies, student supplies and materials, and travel for offsite learning and performance opportunities	40,000
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Teaching artists, instructors and mentors	400,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		500,000

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

YEP services will include The Motivational Edge's Arts Based Youth Development which encompasses various forms of the arts including: The Art of Creative Writing & Lyrical Expression, Audio Recording, Urban Arts Expression and Dance Expression and intertwines life-skill development, mentoring and job readiness within each of them. Many of the arts programs ME offers transcends into the academic setting. For example, those participants in ME's Lyrical Expression sessions perform better in their Reading and Language Arts classes. The Lyrical Expression program is currently being offered in a Miami Dade County Public School (Dade Juvenile Justice Center School) as an alternative to Reading classes, since it aligns with national educational standards for Reading and Language Arts. It provides an immediate point of relatability for the youth, engaging those that aren't normally adept to traditional schooling, never mind being detained to a residential facility.



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

Under-resourced youth including teenagers, graduating high school seniors and youth transitioning out of the foster care system. It is expected that at the end of year two over 250+ youth will have participated in programming and that at least 25 will have transitioned into junior teaching artists, interns or another form of work placement.

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

According to the Afterschool Alliance, the hours after-school during the early evening are the peak hours for juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol and sex. They are also three times more likely to use drugs, and are more likely to drink, and engage in sexual activity. Last year there were 3,334 juvenile arrests in Miami-Dade. Of these arrests, 94% were committed by youth ages 14 and older. Of these same arrests, 91% were males and a staggering 97% were either of African-American or Hispanic descent. Data collected from the Miami-Dade's Juvenile Service Department states that each juvenile arrest cost local government approximately \$9,750 - \$16,532, depending on multiple variables such as being placed in a detention center, residential treatment facility, etc. Further, recidivism rates are high with 74% of youth offenders reoffending within 90 days of discharge.

g. 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?

The current standard penalties for noncompliance are adequate.

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.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Ian Welsh
- b. **Organization:** The Motivational Edge
- c. **Email:** ian@themotivationaledge.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (800)641-2201

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** The Motivational Edge
- b. **County:** Miami-Dade
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - ☐ For Profit
 - ☒ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☐ University or College
 - ☐ Other (Please specify)



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- d. **Contact Name:** Ian Welsh
e. **E-mail Address:** ian@themotivationaledge.org
f. **Phone Number:** (800)641-2201

15. If there is a registered lobbyist, fill out the lobbyist information below.

- a. **Name:** None
b. **Firm:** None
c. **Email:**
d. **Phone Number:**