



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

1. **Title of Project:** K9s For Warriors

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Lauren Book

3. **Date of Submission:** 01/08/2018

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Providing Service Dogs for Twenty-three (23) Florida-based Veterans in 2018-2019

5. **State Agency Contacted?** Yes

a. If yes, which state agency? Department of Veterans Affairs

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

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 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 600,000 | | 600,000 |

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 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Other | 0 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL | 0 | 0.0 % |

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

9. **Previous Year Funding Details:**

a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes

b. In the previous 5 fiscal years, how many years was funding provided? (Optional)

c. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2017-18

d. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? No

e. Complete the following Worksheet.

| | |
|------------|--|
| FY: | Input Prior FY Appropriation for this project for FY <u>2017-18</u> |
|------------|--|



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| | (If appropriated in FY 2017-18 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.) | | |
| Column: | A | B | C |
| Funds Description: | Prior Year Recurring Funds * | Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds * | Total Funds Appropriated (Column A + Column B) |
| Input Amounts: | | 50,000 | 50,000 |

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

Yes

a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year.

\$750,000

11. Program Performance:

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

The requested funds will help us achieve the specific goal of ameliorating the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress in twenty-three (23) Florida-based veterans by providing them with service dogs specifically trained for that purpose. Ultimately, our goal is to empower these American Heroes to return to their civilian lives with dignity and independence.

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

The behind-the-scenes activities conducted by K9s For Warriors to provide services to veterans with Post Traumatic Stress are extensive. The requested funds will help us acquire, screen, and train dogs that were once abandoned in shelters to become top-of-the-line service dogs for twenty-three (23) Florida-based veterans. In addition, the funds will be applied to continuing and completing the service dog training after they have been paired with the Florida based veteran/warrior and during the twenty-one (21) day in-house training program. All of the services are provided to the warriors free of charge.

c. How will the funds be expended?

| Spending Category | Description | Amount |
|---|--|--------|
| Administrative Costs | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits | Executive Director and President salary and benefits | 49,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Salary and Benefits | Human Resources, Finance | 50,000 |



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

| | | |
|---|--|---------|
| | and other office personnel | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Overhead, travel office expense | 36,961 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | |
| Operational Costs | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Salary and Benefits | Salaries and benefits for kennel staff and warrior operations staff | 214,539 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Service dogs: acquisition, veterinarian care, transportation, food & supplies, off-site training; Warrior training program: trainers gear, screening/processing, meals, warriors gear, supplies; transportation, office and facilities | 110,000 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | Education and Sponsorship | 139,500 |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering | | |
| TOTAL | | 600,000 |

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

The twenty-three (23) Florida-based veterans will live and train with their service dogs for twenty-one (21) calendar days on one of K9s For Warriors' state-of-the-art campuses in Nocatee, FL and in Alachua, FL (being launched in 2018 for female warriors to attend classes) where they will learn how to utilize the unique skills of their service dog to help mitigate the symptoms of their Post-traumatic Stress. Please see the attached documentation for additional information about our program.

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

The primary population served by our program is post-9/11 Florida based veterans diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress. We have learned from experience, that these veterans are not the only ones who benefit



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

from what we do. Spouses and caregivers, children, other family members, and entire communities all end up benefiting, because veterans, with the help of their service dog, are no longer solely focused on the debilitating symptoms of their invisible wounds of war. Instead, warriors are able to participate in family functions outside of the home, like dance recitals and baseball games; they are also able to go back to school and work; and they are able to serve their community.

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

The acquisition of a trained, rescued service dog will allow the recipients to return to civilian life with dignity and independence. The service dogs empower the Florida-based veterans to once again venture into public spaces, shop at local businesses, attend public events, contribute to the economic health of their communities and reduce their dependence on government benefits and medications. We expect the results of these pairings to mirror previous results of our 375+ graduates. K9s For Warriors tracks the progress of our warriors in multiple ways. We have partnered with Purdue University to assist us in proving, statistically, the efficacy of our program.

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?

Should K9s for Warriors be unable to pair twenty-three (23) Florida based veterans with service dogs in 2018-2019, K9s For Warriors would return the funds back to the state as a suggested penalty.

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:** Rory Diamond
- b. **Organization:** K9s For Warriors, Inc.
- c. **Email:** rory@k9sforwarriors.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (904)686-1956

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** K9s For Warriors, Inc.
- b. **County:** Saint Johns
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - ☐ For Profit
 - ☒ Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☐ University or College
 - ☐ Other (Please specify)
- d. **Contact Name:** Patricia Dodson



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request - Fiscal Year 2018-2019

e. E-mail Address: patty@k9sforwarriors.org

f. Phone Number: (904)686-1956

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

a. Name: Monica Rodriguez

b. Firm: Ballard Partners

c. Email: monica@ballardfl.com

d. Phone Number: (850)577-0444