



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1710

1. Title of Project: Directions for Living - Community Action Team (CAT) for Babies

2. Senate Sponsor: Darryl Rouson

3. Date of Submission: 02/06/2019

4. Project/Program Description:

In 2013 the GAA directed the DCF to create CAT teams to provide comprehensive, community based services to children ages 11-21 with a mental health or co-occurring substance abuse. The goal is to wrap services around children who are at risk of out of home placement as evidenced by repeated failures in less intensive levels of care; having 2 or more hospitalizations or repeated failures; involvement with DJJ or multiple episodes involving law enforcement; or poor academic performance or suspensions. The ACE Study has proven that for all children under age 18 who endured a traumatic event, the event will impact their life moving forward. The Directions for Living BabyCAT team expands service delivery to children under age 5 who have been removed from their parents. The CAT team will work with the family unit to increase parental bonding, address substance misuse and co-occurring mental illness. The goal will be to expedite permanency and provide treatment to the parents and the child.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds : Department of Children and Families

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	734,492
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	734,492

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	734,492	100.00%
Federal		0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)		0.00%
Local		0.00%
Other		0.00%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	734,492	100.0%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		

9. Is future-year funding likely to be requested? No



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		
Other Salary and Benefits	Outcomes and Expense Tracking at 10%	81,610
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Direct Service (11 FTE)	508,344
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Drug Testing Supplies, Travel, Cell phones and computers	144,538
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		734,492

11. Program Performance:

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

The Directions for Living BabyCAT team will focus on expedited permanency and increased parental bonding for infants and children under the age of 5 who have been removed from their parents due to substance misuse or co-occurring mental illness.

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

The Directions for Living BabyCAT team will consist of a dependency case manager, counselor and peer mentor who will work intensively with the parents to improve their protective capacities and to specifically target the parent-child relationship through the use of the Evidence Based Model, Child-Parent Psychotherapy. Child-Parent Psychotherapy is an attachment therapy for children aged birth through 5 years who are showing mental health or behavioral problems. The treatment is geared towards children who have experienced trauma caused by significant adverse childhood experiences such as abuse or neglect. The BabyCAT team will serve as the dependency case manager and treatment provider in the Pinellas County Early Childhood Court.

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

The services provided will include; Case Management, Substance Abuse Treatment, Child-Parent Psychotherapy, Mental Health Counseling, Supervised Visitation between Parent and Child, as well as any other community based service needed to safely expedite permanency.

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

The target population includes children birth to age 5 who have been removed from their parents due to substance misuse and/or co-occurring mental illness. This project will serve 25-50 children and their parents.



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

Outcome 1: Improve Quality of Education - The BabyCAT team will increase enrollment of children into Trauma-Informed, Quality Early Learning Childcare. The method of measurement will demonstrate 90% of children enrolled in BabyCAT will be enrolled in a trauma informed, quality early learning daycare provider. Outcome 2: Enhance the economic self-sufficiency of parents whose children have been separated due to substance misuse - The BabyCAT team will increase employment or enrollment in benefits for parents enrolled. The method of measurement will include that 100% of parents will be linked to Career Source, SNAP benefits, SOAR (if applicable) and the Pinellas County Health Plan (if eligible). Outcome 3: Reduce the recidivism of children removed from their substance misusing parents from returning to the child welfare system. - The method of measurement will show that 95% of children served by BabyCAT will not experience a return to care within 12 months of achieving permanency

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 in the contract?

2% financial 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:** April Lott, President & CEO
- b. **Organization:** Directions for Mental Health d/b/a Directions for Living
- c. **E-mail Address:** Alott@directionsforliving.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (727)524-4464 Ext. 1702

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Directions for Mental Health d/b/a Directions for Living
- b. **County:** Pinellas
- 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:** April Lott, President & CEO
- e. **E-mail Address:** Alott@directionsforliving.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (727)524-4464 Ext. 1702



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15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** None
- b. **Firm Name:** None
- c. **E-mail Address:**
- d. **Phone Number:**