



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 1525

1. **Project Title** Bridging the Gap in Employment of Young Adults with Unique Abilities

2. **Senate Sponsor** Manny Diaz

3. **Date of Request** 11/25/2019

4. **Project/Program Description**

DMF Employment Opportunities is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit addressing the low employment rate of 19% for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) through systematic job development that integrates the candidate's preferences with the employer's needs to carve out a position for a person with unique abilities. Intensive job training ensures transition to stable employment paired with individualized long-term extended supports, including the benefits of on-demand counseling. Our unique approach builds on creating effective, communicative relationships with Employer Partners to reduce the obstacles, trepidations and fears of hiring individuals with IDD by offering expanded services beyond the traditional 90 & 150 day support models mandated by federal guidelines. The model follows a five-step process that aligns with the evidence-based practice of Customized Employment.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Education

State Agency contacted? ☒ Yes ☐ No

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>350,000</b>

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	350000	52.0 %
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	120,000	18 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	198,753	30 %
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021</b>	<b>668,753</b>	<b>100 %</b>

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 350,000



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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Other Salary and Benefits		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Direct services provided to maintain employment that include on and off-site job coaching, individual and group sessions, peer group meetings, and ongoing follow-ups with the employer and employee. Employment Initiative Director, Program Coordinator, Vocational Services Coordinator/Mental Health Counselor, and Employment Specialists - plus applicable fringe and health insurance.	289,305
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	iPads for training sessions and assessments. Laptops for remote access to database and files to be used on location, document progress through case notes, research or develop tools to be used as accommodations, and maintain communication. Travel and registration fees for the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) conference. Certified Employment Support Professional exam fees. Fees for space to conduct trainings, counseling sessions and peer group meetings. Communication fees,	43,895
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Contracted services to maintain website, design and disseminate information with constituents via eBlasts and social media, design and print outreach materials and training media.	16,800
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		350,000



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#### 11. Program Performance

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

The funds will specifically help sustain extended services integral to maintaining long-term employment outcomes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). An investment in extended services yields positive employment outcomes for young adults with IDD, which leads to economic growth and less dependence on government assistance.

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

Supported employment services provided by DMF Employment Opportunities far exceed the 90-day to 150-day federal guideline standards. Training and maintenance is available to Employer Partners and employees on an ongoing basis with no limitations. Additional direct services include: individual and group counseling sessions by a mental health practitioner, monthly Power Up for Jobs peer group meetings to reinforce and address topics related to employment and financial independence, and monthly social gatherings for employees to network and build relationships.

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

Eligible citizens will receive intensive supported employment services in accordance with the Customized Employment model adopted by DMF Employment Opportunities. The appropriation project will specifically fund intensive job coaching to ensure transition into stable employment and extended services to maintain employment.

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

Young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities between the ages of 18 to 35 years old in Miami-Dade County, Florida. In 2020, it is projected that 25 new employment placements and 40 individuals employed for over a year will be served. The goal is to place at least 25 new young adults with intellectual and development disabilities each year while ensuring that prior placements thrive or grow in their current positions.

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

Young adults with an intellectual and/or developmental disability will benefit from the dignity and independence that comes from gainful employment. Long-term employment is the key that leads to independent living and financial independence. Employer Partners also gain dedicated, hard-working employees with access to customized support and training. Furthermore, all citizens benefit from the financial independence people with disabilities gain through stable employment leading to inclusion in their communities.

- 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?

Future funding will be lost.



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12. 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.

N/A

13. Requestor Contact Information

- a. First Name  Last Name
- b. Organization
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.

14. 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

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name
- b. Firm Name
- c. E-mail Address
- d. Phone Number  Ext.