



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LFIR # 2485

1. **Project Title** Native Fresh Aquaponics2. **Senate Sponsor** Aaron Bean3. **Date of Request** 01/23/20204. **Project/Program Description**

Community aquaponic farming and fishing program in Jacksonville's low-income, minority urban core and will serve as a catalyst for replication in Leon and Hillsborough counties. Funds will allow for hands-on training for at-risk youth and community members of agriculture and STEM conservation sciences and technologies as well as educational marketing for sustainability and environmental conservation throughout Florida using a farming technology that produces 7-10 times the crops with 2-5% of the water with no harsh chemicals or pesticides. Native Fresh is currently partnered USDA for farm-to-school programming, University of Florida IFAS, Florida State College of Jacksonville, and other local non-profit organizations to create an inner-city green learning space open to the community. Projects include mentoring and training at-risk high school students, utilization of the farm for college classes, and research on the affects of urban farming on health, nutrition and well-being.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds** Department of Agriculture and Consumer ServicesState Agency contacted? ☒ Yes ☐ No6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	728,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	772,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1500000	100.0 %
Matching Funds		
Federal	00	0 %
State (excluding the amount of this request)	00	0 %
Local	00	0 %
Other	00	0 %
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2020-2021	1,500,000	100 %

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		
2019-20	00	200,000	1502a	Yes

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

If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 722,000



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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	Executive Director/Project Director 1 FTE - \$79,000 Comptroller .2 FTE - \$16,000 CEO and Chief of Staff .2 FTE - \$21,000	116,000
Other Salary and Benefits	3 FTE Facility Manager - One for each site (Jacksonville, Tampa, And Tallahassee) @\$76,000 - \$228,000 3 FTE Marketing and Distribution Manager one at each site @\$53,000 - 159,000 3 FTE On site aquaponics technician @\$48,000 - \$144,000	531,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Utilities and waste, Communications and marketing, Travel, Insurance	125,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Water tanks, irrigation systems, pumping systems, growing canopies, materials and supply to create complete farm. \$364,000 x 2 sites (Leon and Tampa Bay)	728,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000



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11. Program Performance

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

To educate Inner-city youth about urban farming techniques (aquaponics, aeroponics, Dutch bucket systems, and the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle to provide entrepreneurs with the technical, business, and lifeskills needed to start and develop agribusinesses.)

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

Adult education and training classes, along with youth seminars focused on healthy eating habits, nutrition and urban farming will take place within the facility. The facility is also open to field trips and other community events.

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

150 youth of the community will be trained to improve not only their own lives but also that of the community as improved urban farming techniques are taught, water quality maintenance and management techniques are taught, and quality produce (15,000 products per month) will be made available to the community and the school district at no cost.

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

150 area inner-city youth and entrepreneurs.

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

For 150 youth, this project will improve their physical and mental health, enrich their cultural experience, improve their education on agricultural production, promote the preservation and improvement of fish and wildlife and the quality of the environment, increase and improve their economic ability, enhance job readiness, and enhance economic self-sufficiency.

- 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?

Contract can be terminated by the agency if performance agreements are not met.



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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.

none

13. Requestor Contact Information

- a. First Name Bobby Last Name Lee
- b. Organization Native Fresh
- c. E-mail Address Robert.v.lee.iv@gmail.com
- d. Phone Number (904)318-8888 Ext.

14. Recipient Contact Information

- a. Organization Native Fresh, inc.
- b. Municipality and County Duval
- c. Organization Type
- ☐ For-profit Entity
 - ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (3)
 - ☐ Non-Profit 501(c) (4)
 - ☐ Local Entity
 - ☐ University or College
 - ☒ Other (please specify) Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- d. First Name Bobby Last Name Lee
- e. E-mail Address Robert.v.lee.iv@gmail.com
- f. Phone Number (904)3188888

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. Name Paul Wharton
- b. Firm Name Stephen Wise Consulting/Paul Wharton Consulting
- c. E-mail Address drpaulwharton@gmail.com
- d. Phone Number (904)5630627 Ext.