



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1036

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

**4. Project/Program Description**

Great Explorations would like to improve its overall visitor experience and revitalize its exhibits by installing an enhanced sound system, infographic exhibit signage, updated lighting, and new paint to brighten the gallery floor. It also wants to expand staff training which will allow team members to better engage with children and their parents to communicate and execute the mission. Due to COVID-19 community outreach efforts have needed to change. Great Explorations would like to target the at-risk neighborhoods and low-income families in surrounding communities. In these programs, focus will be on teaching life skills and engaging them in hands on cognitive play. These efforts will improve the museum experience as a whole, allowing children in the community to create, play, and explore exciting new hands-on, educationally-stimulating activities in a refreshed environment and increase community impact overall.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

**State Agency contacted?**  No

**6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	242,260
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>242,260</b>

**7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	242,260	84%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	47,760	16%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</b>	<b>290,020</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

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

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?**  No

a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

b. **Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.**



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**10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?**

**If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.**

**11. 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		0
Other Salary and Benefits	Gallery Floor Manager \$32,000 Gallery Floor Educators \$45,760 Steam Team Outreach Educators \$35,000	112,760
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Exhibit Technician \$17,500 x 2	35,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	New gallery lighting \$20,000 Sound system \$15,000 Outreach branded materials \$9,500 Previously owned camper RV or small bus \$20,000 Gallery signage \$10,000	74,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Evaluator \$20,000	20,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>242,260</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

Great Explorations would like to improve the overall guest experience on its gallery floor and within its community outreach program. By improving this, even more families in the area will be impacted. Due to COVID-19, the outreach program had to temporarily pause since large crowds and events were no longer safe. In order to provide the community and at-risk neighborhoods with the social and emotional learning that comes from hands-on play, Great Explorations needs to add a mobile space to provide even more room for visitors to play and explore. By converting a used recreational vehicle or camper into a mobile outreach museum, and targeting these areas of the community, Great Explorations will be able to still provide the creative learning these children might not otherwise be exposed to.

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

Although Great Explorations already offers daily educational programming, by enhancing current space overall visitor experience will be improved. Adding branded marketing supplies, including equipment such as tents and signage, for the outreach programming will increase visibility at public events. Great Explorations is also requesting funding for a previously owned camper RV or small school bus. The Museum on the Move initiative will target at-risk and low-income community areas to provide hands-on learning at no cost to the families. Families that live at or below the poverty level make up 14% of the surrounding area and will never be exposed to informal learning like Great Explorations.

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



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Great Explorations Children's Museum has been offering hands-on learning for over 30 years. Improvements made at the facility will enable the continuation of the mission of stimulating learning through creativity, play, and exploration. A Dutch study proved that brighter lighting produced more successful outcomes among learners in mathematics, reading, and writing than when students had standard lighting. Great Explorations is dedicated to making a difference in the community and empowering future leaders. By offering more community outreach, in these unprecedented times, it will encourage the love of learning in an informal setting. Studies show that hands-on learning is far more appealing to kids than sitting in front of a computer or whiteboard.

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

Great Explorations Children's Museum serves ages 0-10 and their caregivers. This age demographic would continue to be targeted in the community efforts with offerings for older siblings as well. Each year, Great Explorations serves on average 220,000 children and families both onsite and through community outreach programs. This project would allow Great Explorations to serve another 220,000 children and families.

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

Great Explorations hopes to increase attendance to the museum and our outreach programs. By targeting the most needed community areas, Great Explorations will be able to make a larger impact on the children who would benefit most from hands-on, cognitive learning. Great Explorations will work with an evaluator to measure outcomes for the best possibility of success.

**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 the contract?**

Revert funds back to the state.

**13. 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



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#### 14. Requestor Contact Information

a. First Name  Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number  Ext.

#### 15. 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

#### 16. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number