



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1186

1. **Project Title**
2. **Senate Sponsor**
3. **Date of Request**

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**
- State Agency contacted?** Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	350,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	350,000

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)	350,000	53%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	123,222	19%
Local	0	0%
Other	182,451	28%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	655,673	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21		100,000	35	Yes

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?** Yes
- a. **If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.**

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

None. Without funding less people could be helped.

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



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Yes

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

\$55,432 Small Business Association Paycheck Protection Program loan used for salary and fringe of direct service employees.

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
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 Program Director, Outreach & Media Manager, Program Coordinator, Vocational Services Coordinator/Mental Health Counselor, and Employment Specialists - plus applicable fringe and health insurance.	294,067
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Equipment and program supplies for training sessions, assessments, remote access to database and files to document progress through case notes, research or develop tools to be used as accommodations, and maintain communication. Certified Employment Support Professional exam fees. Fees for space to conduct trainings, counseling sessions and peer group meetings. Communication fees, database access fees, and software.	39,133
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
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		350,000

12. 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?



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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 2021, it is projected that 20 new employment placements and 50 individuals employed for over a year will be served. The goal is to place at least 20 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 the contract?

Future funding will be lost

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