



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1288

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

Common Threads (CT) seeks to help sustain our nutrition education programming in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Duval Counties. This project will reach over 6,900 Florida residents through our strategic partnerships with schools, community-based organizations, parks and recreation sites and medical centers. Our programs include: Educator Professional Development, Small Bites, Cooking Skills and World Cuisine, Family Cooking Classes, Parent Workshops, Cooking Demonstrations, and Grocery Store Tours. Each one of these programs offer a way to connect food, family, and culture, while learning how to do so in an healthy and economical way. Our evidence-based programs provide hands-on experiences whether we are in-person or virtual. This project will also include three innovative partnership projects within Miami-Dade County: Local Food Security Pilot with Urban Oasis; Recipes for Health with Baptist Health South Florida; and Youth Wellness Camps with Guitars Over Guns.

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	231,135
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>231,135</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)	231,135	50%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	88,000	19%
Other	142,500	31%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</b>	<b>461,635</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?**  Yes
- 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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Common Threads(CT) receives foundation, corporate, local government, and individual support for its programming. Due to the pandemic, CT has lost some significant corporate support. Without state funding, programming will still exist, but it will be drastically reduced.

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

Yes

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

Common Threads received support in the amount of \$416,700 in May 2020 through the Payroll Protection Program and the support was used to partially cover salary expenses to eliminate lay-offs and furloughs in our FY20.

**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	Evaluation Manager	21,434
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Senior Program Manager Program Manager Program Coordinator Class Facilitators	95,576
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program Expense: Digital Resources and Tools, Site Rental, Participant Incentives. Equipment: Classroom Cooking Kits, Cooking Class Equipment & Supplies. Supplies: Printed Education Materials, Groceries (food for class), Classroom Education Posters/School Banners. Travel	96,549
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Urban Oasis and Guitars Over Guns (GOGO)	17,576
<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>231,135</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

Our goal will be to improve the health and wellness of underserved communities. Our output goals for our 2021-2022 program Year are: 1) to serve at least 6,900 students, parents/guardians, and teachers in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Duval Counties through the implementation of 290 distinct healthy cooking and nutrition education program sessions which occur both during school hours and after school hours; and 2) for participants to receive up to 528,993 hours of programming and to cook and consume up to 42,799 healthy meals and snacks.

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



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Common Threads' approach to nutrition education is unique, as it is intended to improve multiple elements of community health and wellness by engaging children, families, teachers, and other adult role models in our hands-On cooking and nutrition education classes. This comprehensive approach ensures children and families are supported in making healthy choices across environments-where they live, learn, work, play and shop-thus bolstering and helping to sustain its positive impact. Programming will take place in partnership with up to 65 Miami-Dade County schools, 10 Duval County and Broward County schools, community-based organizations, and park districts for children and adults.

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

We will provide Educator Professional Development (12 sessions) to help educators learn concepts to integrate nutrition into core content areas. Our Small Bites program (200, 8-class sessions) will provide nutrition education reinforcing core academic concepts through grade level aligned lessons and healthy snack recipes. Cooking Skills and World Cuisine (20, 10-class sessions) teaches students how to cook culturally diverse, affordable, and healthy dinners. Our Family Cooking Classes (10, 2-class sessions) teach families how to cook together and incorporate healthy habits at home while maintaining their existing cultural traditions. Parent Workshops teach caregivers how to shop for and prepare healthy meals on a budget.

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

We provide programs in schools and with community-based organizations in communities where at least 80% of children participate in the free- or reduced-priced school lunch program. Our youth programming focuses on grades preK-8th. We also provide programming to parents/caregivers and educators of these students. With our new partnerships, we will also work with persons with chronic conditions and individuals using WIC and SNAP assistance programs. In total, we expect to serve 5,351 students and 1,596 adults for a total of 6,947 reaches.

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

The expected benefits or outcomes are: participants will increase their liking for vegetables; participants will improve their self-efficacy for food preparation; participants will increase their nutrition knowledge; participants will self-report increased consumption of vegetables and whole grains; and participants will increase the frequency of helping to cook at home and communication with their family about healthy eating. We measure these outcomes in a variety of ways through our dedicated research and development team: 1) pre- and post-surveys; 2) anecdotal or self-reported communication; and 3) class observations.

**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?**

We acknowledge the standard contract penalties in the Department of Health process. DOH may withhold all or a portion of the funds if the contract deliverables are deemed unsatisfactory.

**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