



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1405

1. Project Title Exchange Club Parent Aide Northeast Florida

2. Senate Sponsor Aaron Bean

3. Date of Request 02/07/2021

4. Project/Program Description

To provide Parent Aide in-home Parenting Education and Case Management to 70 families/170 children referred by the Dept. of Children and Families' Child Protective Investigators ('CPI') throughout Duval and Nassau counties who do not qualify for services through the CBC based on risk level. Parents referred to DCF or law enforcement and determined through investigation to be at 'low' or 'moderate' risk of abuse or neglect of a child are offered the opportunity to enroll in Parent Aide for a period of six months to a year, to reduce likelihood of further DCF or law enforcement intervention. The families participate in weekly one-hour consultations in their own home, provided to benefit the parent or caretaker with information about effective, non-violent and nurturing parent-child interactions.

This evidence-based program is provided for just under \$1,500 per year per child as opposed to \$40,000+ per year for Foster Care.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Children and Families

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

| Type of Funding | Amount |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Operations | 250,000 |
| Fixed Capital Outlay | 0 |
| Total State Funds Requested | 250,000 |

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) | 250,000 | 71% |
| Matching Funds | | |
| Federal | 0 | 0% |
| State (excluding the amount of this request) | 0 | 0% |
| Local | 100,000 | 29% |
| Other | 0 | 0% |
| Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 | 350,000 | 100% |

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

| Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy) | Amount | | Specific Appropriation # | Vetoed |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| | Recurring | Nonrecurring | | |
| 2020-21 | 0 | 250,000 | 319A | Yes |

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 250,000

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



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We continually seek alternative funding for the Parent Aide program. Our primary source of funding for the agency is an annual Awards Luncheon at UNF and donations from local private foundations, businesses and individuals. We continue to apply through all local funding sources: United Way, city and county governments. In addition, DCF Assistant Secretary Medlock has indicated that DCF recognizes the need for enhanced prevention funding and Parent Aide will apply for any new funding opportunity.

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.

We were granted \$150,000 from the City of Jacksonville for CARES funding, however, we were only allowed to use the funds for expenses incurred July 1 - Oct 30 2020 and are in process of returning \$63,950.54 to the City. We also received \$21,000 in PPP funding.

11. 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, Admin Ass't and Finance | 20,000 |
| Other Salary and Benefits | | 0 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | | 0 |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | 0 |
| Operational Costs: Other | | |
| Salary and Benefits | 3 F/T Parent Aides @39,500 and one F/T Parent Aide Supv @45,000, Taxes and Benefits @350/mo (Taxes @.0765 and health benefits @350/mo) | 198,640 |
| Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other | Mileage reimbursement for Parent Aide staff @ .445 cents/mile (18,500); Cell phone service, technology, Microsoft 365 memberships (\$2,860); materials for families, workbooks and other program supplies (\$2,400); Emergency/flex funds for Parent Aide families (\$4,000); Occupancy (3,600) | 31,360 |
| Consultants/Contracted Services/Study | | 0 |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation: | | |
| Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering | | 0 |
| Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6) | | 250,000 |

12. Program Performance

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

Fewer children will be removed from their homes for abuse and neglect, ultimately reducing the number of children in Foster Care. Families who enroll in the program will receive 6 - 12 months of in-home case management and parent education services in their own home. The goal is to help parents learn and cultivate the skills and practices necessary to provide a safe, stable and nurturing environment for their children and reduce the potential of the children being removed from their homes by DCF. These referrals are for families deemed at "low" or "moderate" risk of abuse and no other intensive in-home services are available to the individuals we serve. The CBC offers services only to families deemed "high" risk and Healthy Families, also an in-home program, enrolls expectant moms and parents of newborns under 3 mo's. The Parent Aide program as well as the Nurturing Parenting curriculum are both evidenced based and time tested programs in use for over 40 years.

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



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Weekly one hour visits to the family home during the initial 3 - 6 months, bi-weekly for a period of 6 - 9 months thereafter. All workbooks and curriculum are provided without cost. Families are also provided with various available resources for emergency needs such as food, medicine and other items that the families may struggle to afford. Interactions between the parents and the children are observed during the visits. Families may also earn small incentive rewards for active participation, maintaining homework assignments and completing the entire course. All curriculum is determined by the needs of the family through an Assessment tool which assists the Parent Aide in identifying family/individual strengths and areas in need of improvement. A pre and post-test ("AAPI") is utilized to determine parents' understanding of the material. Goals are also established for each adult enrolled as well as goals for the family, all of which they are expected to meet during enrollment.

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

The Parent Aide program will be offered to families identified by DCF Investigators across Duval and Nassau counties; referrals may also be accepted from law enforcement and Dept. of Corrections. All Parent Aide services are provided on a voluntary basis and there is no cost to participants regardless of income. Families are accepted without regard to the age of the children and does not limit enrollment to 0 - 3 as done with other prevention programs which is the reason for the programs popularity. All adults living in the household who may provide care for the child are offered services.

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

Our target population is any family reported to DCF or law enforcement with allegations of child abuse or neglect. If parent(s) is deemed at risk of child abuse or neglect but the children are not assessed as 'unsafe', the PI may refer the family to Parent Aide before DCF case closure. The local CBC provides such services only to families deemed at "imminent risk for removal" of the child per the Families First Prevention Services Act and low or moderate risk families do not qualify for their programs. Healthy Families also provides excellent and very similar services, however, only expectant moms and families with a newborn under the age of 3 months may enroll in Healthy Families, therefore, all other families are referred to Parent Aide in these counties. With the \$250,000 requested we will provide services to 70 families which constitutes approximately 170 children and 100 adults. The annual cost per child is \$1,488 as opposed to \$40,000 - \$80,000 per child per year for foster care.

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

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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?

If the required number of families are not served or specific requirements are not met, we will work with DCF to return funds received under this contract.

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