



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1496

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

#### 4. Project/Program Description

The Special Hearts Farm "Special Animals for Special Hearts," is a Non-Profit 501(c) 3 organization that serves individuals with disabilities and unique abilities who have been denied opportunities for college and supported employment, by providing adult day training and possible entrepreneur business opportunities related to farming and gardening experiences. The Special Hearts Farm 501(c)3, features a "true transition opportunity" for students with disabilities to train and and continue performing meaningful jobs once they age out of school. This transition opportunity is the first of its kind in the state of Florida!

The purpose of this project will be to lease state owned land (parcel #35-20-28-0000-00-001) and prepare the 40 acres of land for infrastructure and eventually a "forever home" for the Special Hearts Farm. We are currently in a year to year lease situation and are unable to expand or offer residential home (overnight) services.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</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)	1,000,000	100%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

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.**

Paycheck Protection Program - \$24,725 - payroll only  
 Economic Injury Disaster Loan Advance - \$10,000 - operating expenses  
 Cares Provider Relief Fund - \$952 - lost revenue due to COVID 19

**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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	*Land/Planning- sitework, electrical, engineering, permitting, preparing 40 acres of state owned land (parcel 35-20-28-0000-00-001) offered by Senator Wilton Simpson and Mayor Bryan Nelson for infrastructure.	1,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

**12. Program Performance**

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

The specific purpose/goal of this project will be to obtain (lease) state owned land (Parcel #35-20-28-0000-00-001) and prepare the land for infrastructure and an eventual "forever home" for the Special Hearts Farm. The initial funds will include permitting, sitework, engineering, electrical, and preparing the land for infrastructure. The next phase will include building a facility for the Adult Day Training Program, a barn for our "special animals", pasture fencing, and an eventual residential home for residents. This will provide our clients a meaningful day experience, along with a safe forever home. Our focus will continue to include building community inclusion for our clients and support for their families.

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

Day Training (day program for individuals with disabilities and unique abilities)  
 \*Business/Entrepreneur Opportunities (selling farm products; goat milk soap, rustic signs, eggs, vegetables) in Special Hearts Farm Store and Windermere/Winter Garden Farmer's Market  
 \*Residential Home Setting (clients will be able to live on the farm)  
 \*Community Outings (shopping, leisure activities, community events)

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

Adult Day Training, Music Therapy, Community Outings, Business Opportunities (farm store, farmers market), Daily Living Skills, Functional Life Skills.



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

Our target population will include adults with disabilities.  
We will serve as many individuals as we can accommodate based on the completed size of our facility.

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

The benefit of this project will be to provide a meaningful day experience to individuals with disabilities in farming and gardening, with the opportunity of employment on the property and/or out in the community.  
A secondary benefit will be to provide our clients with a safe residential home setting.  
The outcome will be measured by our clients success and overall happiness within the Special Hearts Farm and their participation in the community.  
In addition, we will continue to follow the Agency for Person's with Disabilities guidelines to measure our 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?**

Failure to meet specified program stipulations in the contract would disqualify us for the next physical year for appropriations.

**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.**

The Special Hearts Farm 501(c)3 non-profit is currently leasing our facility from Orange County Public Schools. There is no relationship between the owners of the facility (OCPS) and the Special Hearts Farm, other than a year to year leasing agreement.



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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