



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1555

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

4. Project/Program Description

The Fire Watch was formed in November 2019 by the counties of Baker, Clay, Nassau, St. Johns and Duval to coordinate regional efforts to end veteran suicide. The region is home to 1.5m residents and 150k military veterans. State funding will: (1) support efforts to identify and close weaknesses in crisis care resources available to our veterans, and (2) build an early intervention network of Gatekeeper volunteers trained to direct at-risk veterans to the resources they need.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	500,000	100%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2020-21	0	250,000	577A	Yes

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.**
-

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1555

Yes

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

We received \$52,000 of CARES Act funding spent on TV and digital media community outreach including shooting, editing, airing of programs, social media, web contact and engagement to reach isolated Northeast Florida veterans due to COVID. We might also receive \$11,200 from Clay County CARES funding for development of our digital resources guide for veterans, but that is not yet confirmed.

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	Outsourced Executive and Program Management Services (\$70,000) Audit Fees (\$10,000)	80,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Program Manager (\$70,000) Program Evaluator / Data Entry Specialist (\$60,000)	130,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Watch Stander (Gatekeeper) Program, Veteran Events, Veteran Outreach (\$120,000) Microgrants to shore up veteran crisis care resources (\$100,000) Travel and Supplies (\$10,000)	230,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Watch Stander (Gatekeeper) Program, Veteran Events, Veteran Outreach (\$120,000) Microgrants to shore up veteran crisis care resources (\$100,000) Travel and Supplies (\$10,000)	60,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

12. Program Performance

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

End veteran suicide in Northeast Florida. Our programs are focused on "Strengthening Access to and Delivery of Suicide Care Resources", consistent with CDC suicide prevention logic model strategy F.1 and J.2.

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

State funding will support efforts to (1) identify and close weaknesses in crisis care resources available to veterans, and (2) build an early intervention network of Gatekeeper volunteers trained to direct at-risk veterans to the resources they need. As part of this, The Fire Watch maintains a comprehensive database of over 400 at-cost or no-cost resources available to veterans in NE Florida.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1555

Direct services will be the development and communication of an enhanced ecosystem of veteran resources and the creation and implementation of a trained network of volunteers to identify risk signs of veterans in crisis and direct those veterans to the help and resources they need.

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

150,000 U.S. military veterans in Northeast Florida.

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

Consistent with CDC suicide prevention logic model strategy F.1 and J.2, our short term measure (1 year) is to increase veteran use of mental health and upstream services by 10%. Our long term (3 years) measure is to reduce veteran suicide by 20%. Short term: Measured by % increase in baseline utilization of regional Veteran services collected by polling partner services. Also measuring # of trained Gatekeepers in Northeast Florida community. Long term: Measured against baseline Veteran suicide data to be collected in 2021 in partnership with Americas Warrior Project.

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?

Performance measures would be quarterly milestones tied to veteran suicide prevention program deliverables, including progress reports toward specific measurables noted in section 19 of this document. Funding could be provided in quarterly increments and discontinued or withheld unless compliant progress reports are submitted.

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.

Local Government



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1555

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