



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2021-2022

LFIR # 1858

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Our program includes a complete 24 week service dog training program that includes the acquisition of a dog, service vest, crate and car harness, certification record, patches and all equipment necessary at no charge to the service member or veteran. Life skills are also taught for those striving to get back into the workforce or other endeavors after graduation.

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	900,000
Total State Funds Requested	900,000

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)	900,000	91%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	94,000	9%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022	994,000	100%

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.

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.



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PPP- \$72,413.00 Utilized for payroll and utility payments.

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	Consultants to assist with site survey(s) and architect(s) to develop drawings for building.	50,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction for ~20,000 sq. ft. building to house a service dog training program for veterans and service members to include staff offices, conference/board room, training area for dogs, private counseling room, bathrooms, scenario rooms, storage rooms built to Pasco county codes. Additional structure to include an outdoor covered space to hold aftercare events designed to reinforce the benefits of the training program, fenced in Dog Park and sufficient parking.	850,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		900,000

12. Program Performance

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

A larger training facility will increase the number of veterans receiving the assistance they need throughout the state. We want to expand our reach to others outside our Demographic Market Area, including the Under-served. Our costs are lower than all other certified service dog training organizations, <\$10k per dog as we save dogs from kill shelters. By not having large overhead costs of breeding and housing dogs, we provide a higher number of veterans served, increasing our Return On Investment.

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

Our program includes a complete 19 week service dog training program that includes the acquisition of a dog, service vest, crate and car harness, certification record, patches and all equipment necessary at no charge to the service member or veteran. Life skills are also taught for those striving to get back into the workforce or other endeavors after graduation.

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

Direct services include veteran/K9 training; basic, graduate and advanced levels, lifetime support to all veterans including their K9's and their families, access to our professional staff for any training assistance during their training sessions as well as after graduation, quarterly aftercare events for veterans and their families, free counseling by our on-site Licensed Clinical Social Worker for private counseling, veteran coed group counseling, spouse group counseling as well as female veteran only group counseling, life skills to assist the veteran with laws pertaining to them and their service dog and how to handle questions from the public, working in real-life scenario rooms located in the training center to prepare them for public outings and recertification requirements for all graduate veterans for five (5) years after graduation to check their progress and socialization skills.

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



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Veterans and Active Service Members with PTSD, TBI and or MST from all eras (not just post 9/11). Veterans are not the only ones benefiting. Included are the spouses/caregivers, children and other family members as well as the Florida communities in which the veteran resides all of whom benefit when the help of their service dog allows them to break through the invisible wounds of war and rejoin society. The Tampa Bay Area has over 320 thousand veterans and the state is the 3rd largest in the country for the overall veteran population as a whole.

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

The expected benefit for program veterans that have graduated from our program for after receiving and training their own service dog is a statistically significant improvement in the pretest scores and post-test scores of all survey clinical scales in the TSI-2 testing that is performed. This has allowed them to become productive members of their communities as they transition from a life of isolation to one of socialization. The results of our training program have been independently researched and evaluated by PhD, LCSW Professors at both St. Leo University and the University of Central Florida with over four (4) years of empirical data. Using the industry standard Trauma Symptom Inventory (TSI-2), a Psychological evaluation/assessment instrument that taps symptoms of Post traumatic stress disorder we have data from over 100 K9 Partners for Patriots program participant graduates.

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?

In the event K9 Partners for Patriots fails to meet the contractual deliverables, the financial consequences would be to refund any unused monies after the completion of the project.

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.

K9 Partners for Patriots, Inc.



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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