



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1006

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

Common Threads (CT) seeks to grow our evidence-based nutrition education for school health and wellness programs throughout the State of Florida. This project is projected to reach 5,521 Floridians (approximately 3,500 students and 1,800 teachers and parents) with nutrition and healthy cooking education. Our programs include: Educator Professional Developments (18 live classes; 6 virtual) Small Bites (720 live classes; 320 virtual), Cooking Skills and World Cuisine (300 live classes), Family Cooking Classes (20 live classes), Parent Workshops (12 live classes), Grocery Store Tours (5 live classes), Virtual Cooking Classes (25 virtual), On-Demand Programming (unlimited), Teacher Resources (estimated 500 Teachers).

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	333,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	333,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	333,000	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	255,833	38%
Other	77,167	12%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	666,000	100%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2019-20		875,382	113	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.**

Common Threads (CT) receives foundation, corporate, local government, and individual support for its programming. Examples include: Badia Spices, Peacock Foundation, Inc., Batchelor Foundation, United Way of Miami-Dade, M-D County, and more.



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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, \$527,000 in 2021 through the Payroll Protection Program and the support was used to partially cover salary expenses to eliminate lay-offs and furloughs in our FY20. Additionally we received an Employee Retention Credit of \$97,000 in 2021 related to 2020.

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	Evaluation Manager, Vice President of Research and Evaluation, Bookkeeper, Director of Accounting, Vice President of Communications and Culture, Partnership Engagement Manager, Corporate Engagement Manager	57,550
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Senior Program Manager, Program Manager, Program Coordinator, Chef Instructors	147,500
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Advertising, Insurance, Occupancy, Professional Fees, Program Equipment, Travel, Fundraising, Staff Expenses, Miscellaneous	127,950
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)		333,000

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 under-served communities. Our output goals for the 2022-2023 program year are: 1) to serve at least 5,521 students, parents/guardians, and teachers with nutrition and healthy cooking education and provide resources and; 2) for participants to receive up to 45,953 hours of programming and to cook and consume up to 34,702 healthy meals and snacks.

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

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.

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



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We will provide Educator Professional Development (18 live classes, 6 virtual) to help educators learn concepts to integrate nutrition into core content areas. Our Small Bites program (720 live classes, 40 virtual) will provide nutrition education reinforcing core academic concepts through grade level aligned lessons and healthy snack recipes. Cooking Skills and World Cuisine (300 live classes) and Virtual Cooking Classes (25 virtual) teaches students how to cook culturally diverse, affordable, and healthy dinners. Our Family Cooking Classes (20 live classes) teach families how to cook together and incorporate healthy habits at home while maintaining their existing cultural traditions. Parent Workshops (12 live classes) and Grocery Store Tours (5 live classes) teach caregivers how to shop for and prepare healthy meals on a budget. Lastly On-Demand and Teacher Resources are available State-wide at no charge for teachers to access educational materials.

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. In total, we expect to serve approximately 3,500 students and 1,800 adults.

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 Education process. The Department of Education 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