



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1181

1. Project Title Ladies Empowerment & Action Program (LEAP)

2. Senate Sponsor Ana Maria Rodriguez

3. Date of Request 10/29/2021

4. Project/Program Description

LEAP is dedicated to helping incarcerated women transcend their past and successfully navigate reentry. With its long-standing relationship with the Department of Corrections, LEAP will continue to provide its in-prison trauma-focused education program at Homestead Correctional Institution. LEAP will expand its supportive housing option for up to twelve program participants at a time (up from six). Support includes rent subsidies, healthcare stipend, paid internship, and other reentry services.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Corrections

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>200,000</b>

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)	200,000	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 2022-2023</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 200,000

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

LEAP historically relies on individual donations and grants. While LEAP will continue to pursue such funding streams, such funding is inconsistent and accordingly has not allowed us to increase capacity to meet overall need and demand of programming/services.

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



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Yes

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

LEAP received funds distributed through the Paycheck Protection Program. The total amount was \$101,520.

#### 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	Executive Director Salary. No benefits.	25,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Office Manager Salary. No benefits.	15,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	Director of Community Engagement, Case manager, and in-prison instructor salaries. No benefits.	75,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Security deposit for new supportive housing, subsidized rent and utilities for supportive housing. Housing supplies such as toiletries, cleaning supplies, minor repairs, and security. Travel for class selection and in-prison education.	85,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>200,000</b>

#### 12. Program Performance

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

LEAP will continue to provide its in-prison trauma-focused education program at Homestead Correctional Institution. LEAP will expand its supportive housing from six residents to twelve residents. LEAP's programming provides tools and education for women as they support themselves and their children. LEAP programming is proven to be effective in achieving lower rates of recidivism among its graduates, as compared to women in the state of Florida overall. Stable, suitable and safe housing is key to ensuring that lower rate of recidivism. LEAP's proven rate of recidivism is less than 6%. We have learned that true rehabilitation and successful reentry only happen through comprehensive pre and post release programs, which is why we focus on providing a continuum of care to women involved with the criminal justice system.

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

LEAP will provide in-prison education, entrepreneurial training, workforce readiness, housing, mentorship, and reentry support services including case management, substance abuse programming, rent subsidies, healthcare stipend, paid internship, and other.

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

Currently incarcerated women screened by the Department of Corrections will receive in-prison, trauma-focused education. Upon graduation, and based upon availability, supportive housing will be provided for up to twelve citizens at a time. Residents of the supportive housing will be provided with a paid internship. Other reentry support services including case management will also be provided.

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



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LEAP's target population is women currently incarcerated within the state of Florida. Nearly all of LEAP graduates are indigent with limited options for housing and employment after their release from prison. Over 80% of incarcerated women suffer from the untreated effects of childhood sexual trauma, domestic violence and addiction as well as trauma experienced while incarcerated. The majority of formerly incarcerated women are mothers of children under the age of 18 and have sole custody. These women are most often the primary caregivers for their children and will resume care of their children upon release. LEAP provides its program participants with the tools necessary to be self-sustaining.

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

LEAP will measure the rates of recidivism of its program graduates. Project success will be measured by continuing to achieve a lower rate of recidivism than the state of Florida's overall rate. LEAP Case Manager will track rates of recidivism. Furthermore, although it is more difficult to measure, we expect to see increased rates of employment and decreased rates of homelessness amongst our program 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?**

Failure to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract will result in repayment to the administering agency.

**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