



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1434

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

4. Project/Program Description

To expand Exchange Parent Aide throughout Duval, Baker, Clay and Nassau counties to meet the demand for services. Families deemed at low to moderate risk for child abuse and neglect by DCF are referred for services within the community when they do not qualify for services through the CBC. Families with an expectant mom or a newborn under the age of 3 months in the home are referred to Healthy Families, all others are referred to Parent Aide. Parent Aide provides services weekly in the family's home, for a period of 6-12 months. Exchange Parent Aide is an evidence-based program guided by 40 years of research and development through the National Exchange Clubs of America in Toledo, OH, and provided at non-profit agencies in 23 states. Parent Aide has been provided in Duval county since 1991 and demand for services always exceeds capacity. No other programs provides long-term, intensive, in-home services to families deemed at low or low/moderate risk in this area.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	887,188
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	887,188

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)	887,188	86%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	150,000	14%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	1,037,188	100%

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	150,000	310A	No

9. **Is future funding likely to be requested?** Yes
- 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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The agency pursues all grant and funding opportunities. Community Exchange Club members have consistently supported the agency since its inception in 1991 through donations and special event sponsorships. We just recently received new funding from the City of Jacksonville for one Parent Aide position and we will continue to grow our revenue base as services expand and funding opportunities are available.

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.

During FY 2020-21, after the \$250,000 state funding was vetoed, the organization received two PPP grants for a total of \$70,872 which were forgiven. We also received \$150,000 in CARES funding, however, use was restricted to the period ending 10/30/20 and we used \$86,049, returning \$63,951. We were fortunate to see an increase in private donations and we were able to maintain our staff and complete the year successfully.

11. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits: Salary @.40=\$32,000, Benefits and Taxes @.0765, \$3,500.	35,500
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting Services @1,333/mo x 12 mo's	16,000
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Eleven FT Parent Aides (Bachelor's level) \$450,000, One Program Director (Masters level, MSW) \$58,000, One Parent Aide Supv, \$48,000, one F/T Program Admin. Assistant, \$36,000, HRA benefits @350/mo x 12 mo x 14 FTE = \$58,800, Taxes @.0765, \$45,288.	696,088
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mileage for Parent Aides' home visits @.445/mile, \$62,000; Technology \$9,000, Training/conferences, \$10,000; Liability Insurance, \$6,000, Occupancy, \$12,000, Printing, \$3,600, Program materials/ curriculum/office supplies, \$12,000, Incentive/emergency funds for families, \$25,000.	139,600
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)		887,188

12. Program Performance

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



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This funding will allow us to accept referrals from all DCF Protective Investigators ("PI") assigned to Duval, Baker, Clay and Nassau counties for low and low/moderate risk families identified by DCF PI's as 'at-risk' for abuse and neglect. Our current funding level is insufficient to meet the heavy demand for services and we consistently have a wait list. The primary goal of Parent Aide is to provide support and guidance to families who are identified by DCF as potentially 'at-risk' of abuse and neglect, and without intervention or services, may deteriorate until further DCF or law enforcement must become involved. For over 30 years, Parent Aide graduates consistently have an extremely low recidivism rate with DCF, with 97% of graduates having no further confirmed DCF reports within a year of graduation. More importantly, providing sufficient prevention services will ultimately reduce the number of repeat calls to the Registry and reduce the risk of removing the child from the home.

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

Weekly one hour visits are made to family's home during the initial 3 - 6 months, bi-weekly for a period of 6 - 9 months thereafter. Adults enrolled will complete an AAPI-2 pre-test and post-test. The AAPI-2 is an inventory designed to assess the parenting and child rearing attitudes of adult and adolescent parent and pre-parent population, and is part of the evidence-based, trauma-informed Nurturing Parenting curriculum used throughout the Parent Aide program. Based on the pre-test score and the Initial Risk Assessment, a weekly schedule is created for the parents. As further needs are identified throughout the course of enrollment, referrals are made to other local, community resources which may be available. All services are designed to assist parents learn the skills and behaviors necessary to provide a safe, stable and nurturing environment for their children and thereby eliminate any further need for DCF or law enforcement intervention.

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

Services will be offered to a minimum of 260 families/620 children from the four counties. Referrals primarily come from DCF Investigators for families deemed low to low/moderate risk who are in need of in-home parent education and case management services. Referrals are also accepted from the Dept. of Corrections for parents who have been charged with child abuse or neglect and subsequently deferred to Pre-trial Intervention. A parent may be court-ordered to complete parenting education, however, they do not qualify for assistance through DCF or the local CBC since they are not in the home with the child and the DCF case is closed. Parent Aide is available to any family in need of services who does not qualify through DCF or the CBC providers. Referrals may also come from a parent who has recognized their need for help.

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

Any family in need of services throughout these four counties will be admitted to the program without regard to race, income, religion, sexual orientation or stated disability. Every effort is made to work within the parents' schedules, including late afternoon and weekend appointments if no other time is available for the parent. We will serve a minimum of 260 families which equates to approximately 620 children. DCF referrals for parents identified as 'at-risk' for abuse and neglect are given priority and will always be accepted if they are in need of services, do not qualify for services through the local CBC due to funding restrictions, and based on the child's age, do not qualify for Healthy Families, the only other program providing long-term, in-home, intensive parenting services.

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

Parents who complete the Parent Aide program successfully will not have a confirmed case of abuse or neglect within one year of graduation, thereby reducing the number of repeat referrals often called in to the Abuse Registry. In addition, as parents learn new, non-violent ways to raise their children, fewer children will need to be removed from their home due to abuse or neglect. We are contractually obligated to report on all contract goals monthly, and our Parent Aide graduates list is updated and submitted monthly for 6 and 12 month reviews. Through this method we have established that 99% of Parent Aide graduates have no confirmed report of abuse or neglect within six months of graduation and 97% have no confirmed report within one year post-graduation. We propose that by meeting the need for evidence-based, long-term prevention services in these four counties for a period of three years, there will be a 10-15% decrease in number of children in Foster Care in these counties.

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?



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Failure to meet the contractual requirements set forth by DCF will result in loss of funding and financial penalties as specified in each DCF contract. We also complete a quarterly 'Return on Investment' report for DCF which reflects the annual cost per child for Foster Care at \$105,131 (number provided by DCF) and the annual cost per child for Parent Aide at \$1,488. Contracts are monitored and cases reviewed by DCF throughout the contract period, and outcomes are reviewed by DCF monthly.

- 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