

LFIR # 1834

1. Project Title	Florida Caregiving Youth - At Risk Student Services

2. Senate Sponsor Lori Berman

3. Date of Request 12/16/2021

4. Project/Program Description

The Caregiving Youth program is the 1st of its kind in the U.S. to identify and support middle and high school students who sacrifice their education, childhood, and sometimes, even their own health to provide care for family members who are chronically ill or disabled. Today, more than ever, with the residual effects of Covid and long-term Covid care, the number of student caregivers has significantly increased. AACY is proud of its 98% graduation rate for at-risk students. Most of our students (84%) are minorities from financially-insecure households. They are at the greatest risk of dropping out. The primary purpose of this request is to protect the academic futures of even more student caregivers. As we struggle through the collateral damage of Covid, we must think ahead. Therefore another goal is to develop a semi-remote model of emotional services and resources for students in two other Florida counties with graduation rates less than 85%.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

Department of Children and Families

State Agency contacted? Yes

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	318,600
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	318,600

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)	318,600	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 2022-2023	318,600	100%	

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year	Amount		Specific	Vetoed	
(уууу-уу)	Recurring	Nonrecurring	Appropriation #		
2021-22		250,000	310A	Yes	

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

250,000

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

Possibility of continued local charitable foundation funding of \$50,000 - \$100,000.

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



No

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

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

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Allocated President Salary and Expansion Project Director Salary	85,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	I/Supplies/ Laptops, office phone, scanner, cell phones, fuel, mileage, tolls, or Uber rides, printing, ink, masks, shields, sanitizer in office, air purifier in office, and emergency-need equipment on hand, such as, walkers, oxygen tanks, blood pressure cuffs, wheelchair, commode, etc.	
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Director of Education Services, PR Awareness Campaign, External Pilot Evaluation, Liaison with FL DOE and legislature, Data Entry, Data Collection	55,300
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Allocated Finance/Accounting and Communications Manager (Digital and Print Media)	52,650
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Install Air Purifiers, HEPA filters in office, additional desk furnishings, white board, conference table, office property renovations.	16,250
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Corporate Memberships and Services (i.e., Zoom, American Academy of Pediatrics, AMA, Nursing Assoc Webinars, Development & implementation of AACY webinars, tele-care groups, IT data management, monitoring cyber risks, annual conference fees, etc.	
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:	
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (m	ust equal total from question #6)	318,600

12. Program Performance

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

The purpose of this request is to protect the academic futures of even more caregiving students now called upon to provide at-home care for a larger group of affected parents/grandparents as we all struggle to survive the collateral damage of long term covid and heart and lung illnesses. Another purpose is to develop a semi-remote model of emotional services for students in two other FL counties with graduation rates less than 85% because of lack of assistance to caregiving students.

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

Tutors, mentors, at-home nursing training, enhanced time with educational counselors/guidance counselors for academic stability, psychological services and networking ability for caregivers to connect with other student caregivers so they don't feel alone, disconnected, and hopeless about their future.

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

All services described will be provided directly to 6-12th grade students and citizens of their respective counties.

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



The target population is at-risk 6-12th grade students who are called upon to deliver care at-home to their parents, grandparents, and/or siblings. If the expansion model is developed, approximately 1,800 students who are most at risk of dropping out of school can be rescued and their futures saved.

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

be measured?

The benefit is we save students most at risk of dropping out from losing their futures. We provide them with criticallyneeded support and resources to guide them to stay on track while performing this service for their families. The most measurable outcome is the graduation rate for caregiving students. Of those we have worked with thus far, our graduation rate is 98% - far exceeding the norm for the state of Florida.

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?

Unknown- these funds go directly to the resources and support caregiving students need. Without this help, many more students will drop out of school.

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



LFIR # 1834

14. Requestor Contact Information

	a. First Name	Connie	Last Name	Siskowski	
	b. Organization	American Association of Caregiving Youth			
	c. E-mail Address	connie@aacy.org			
	d. Phone Number	(561)391-7401	Ext.		
15.	Recipient Contact	Information			
	a. Organization	American Association of Caregiving Youth			
	b. Municipality and	d County Palm Beach			
	c. Organization Type				
	For Profit Entity				
	☑Non Profit 501(c				
	□Non Profit 501(c				
	□Local Entity				
	□University or Co	ollege			
	□Other (please specify)				
	d. First Name	Connie	Last Name	Siskowski	
	e. E-mail Address	connie@aacy.org			
	f. Phone Number	Number			
16. Lobbyist Contact Information					
	a. Name	Rita M. Solnet			
	b. Firm Name	Rita Solnet			
	c. E-mail Address	rmsolnet@gmail.com			
	d. Phone Number	(561)289-7333			