



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 1853

1. Project Title STEPS Women's Residential Services with Medication Assisted Treatment

2. Senate Sponsor Debbie Mayfield

3. Date of Request 12/13/2021

4. Project/Program Description

Specialized Treatment, Education and Prevention Services (STEPS) will provide access to a safe, efficient, and cost-effective pathway to recovery, and provide level II residential treatment and coordination with Child Welfare offering Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Opioid addiction for Brevard County women who are pregnant, post-partum, or women with children. The opioid epidemic has no boundaries and does not discriminate, bringing with it enormous financial costs to our community. The number of women who die within a year of having a baby is a public health concern and with Brevard County having the sixth-highest death rate for overdoses in Florida and residents are 44 percent more likely to die from a drug overdose than the average American. Parental substance use is the number one cause for removal of children under the age of 5. Losing friends, family and loved ones is the ultimate loss to our community that must be aggressively addressed.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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	500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22		500,000	367	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? No

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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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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Staffing for the program to include a clinical director, program director, counselors, behavioral techs, nurses and dietitians.	376,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Expenses including software, training, client transportation and operating supplies.	102,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consultations with medical director, CPA and psychiatrist.	22,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

12. Program Performance

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

While we have been focused on the Covid-19 pandemic, the overdose epidemic has only continued to rise and its related societal effects on overdose deaths and child welfare removals show a troubling increase associated with the pandemic. According to the Florida Department of Health, in the first eight months of 2020 there was an unprecedented 43 percent spike in drug overdose deaths in Florida compared to the same time in 2019. The specific goal of the STEPS residential treatment program will be to reduce costs for multiple publicly funded systems by reducing child welfare removals, reducing emergency room visits, and reducing arrests and incarceration. Funding of these residential beds in advance of an encounter with the criminal justice alone will yield tremendous benefits with the average cost of MAT of approximately \$4,000 compared to the \$22,000 average cost to taxpayers for incarceration.

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

As defined in Florida Administrative Code (65D-30, F.A.C), Residential Level II treatment is structured to serve clients who need a safe and stable living environment in order to develop sufficient recovery skills for the transition to a lesser restrictive level of care or reintegration into the general community in accordance with placement criteria. STEPS will provide these beds in addition to providing Child Welfare coordination and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to all participants through a client-centered approach and Evidenced Based Treatment Services that includes group therapy, individual and family counseling. Recognition of the extent of women's exposure to opioids and the attendant consequences has been limited therefore through established Memorandum of Agreements (MOA), STEPS will provide a wraparound approach to link additional services unique to women's needs with crucial community providers including pre- and post-natal care.

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



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Data from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Medical Examiners Commission 2020 Intermittent Report, indicated there were 3,834 opioid-related deaths, a 30% increase as compared with the same time period of 2019. Funds for this project will provide ten (10) level II residential treatment beds, evidenced based group, individual and family counseling, transportation to and from treatment as well as all appointments including visitation with child(ren) in dependency care and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) with an E-therapy component to Pregnant; post-partum women; and women with child(ren) who are addicted to opioids residing in Brevard County. After transitioning back to Brevard County, participants will be placed in an Outpatient/case management program to receive aftercare and follow up services, as needed.

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

The target population served by this project are women addicted to opioids who are pregnant or post-partum; and women with child(ren) residing in Brevard County. Depending on the length of stay which is anticipated at 4-6 months, a total of 20 individuals are expected to be served.

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

Program outcomes will be measured through the following methods:

- (1) 75% of program participants will successfully complete treatment as evidenced by documentation in the discharge summary;
- (2) 75% of program participants will increase access to safe and sober housing as evidenced by documentation in the transition plan and discharge summary.
- (3) 75% of program participants will achieve reunification with their child(ren) as evidenced by documentation in child welfare case plans, the transition plan and discharge summary.
- (4) 75% of program participants will improve their probation outcome as evidenced by documentation in probation reports, the transition plan and discharge summary.

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?

Suggested penalties may include: No payment of funds to the agency as a result of not admitting clients within 60 days of funding being made available; or No payment of funds to the agency if identified beds are vacant more than 30 days.

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