



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2505

1. Project Title Blue Angels Foundation (BAF) Post Traumatic Stress Protocol to Reduce Veteran Suicide

2. Senate Sponsor Danny Burgess

3. Date of Request 01/24/2022

4. Project/Program Description

The Blue Angels Foundation (BAF), based in Pensacola, is a 501(c)(3), all volunteer non-profit supporting the wounded warrior community in FL and nationally. Specifically, the BAF supports the "continuum of care", a four step process that provides the wounded warrior positive transition from "active duty injured" to "retired disabled". This process includes: transition housing, education, networking for employment, and resolving Post Traumatic Stress (PTS). Annual events, corporate and private donations, along with Foundation partners provide the funding to meet annual mission objectives. An overriding goal of the Board is the eradication of veteran suicide. The Board is committed to raising awareness of the suicide rate (veteran and active duty total 22 per day, more than 8,000 per year), as well as funding wounded warriors PTS protocols.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Veterans' Affairs

State Agency contacted? No

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? 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. 500,000

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

Event corporate and individual sponsorships and donations throughout the calendar year.



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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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	100% of the requested funds will be allocated to the Warrior Care Network... Veteran's Program at Emory Healthcare in Atlanta, Home Base at Mass General in Boston, Road Home at Rush Medical Center in Chicago, or Operation Mend at UCLA Medical Center in LA. These four evidenced based hospitals have implemented PTS protocols proved to be more than 90% effective in resolving the PTS symptoms as presented. These protocols reduce depression and suicide.	500,000
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?

100% of the requested funds will be allocated to support PTS protocol. The Boards aim is to fund as many wounded warriors as funding allows each year. One life saved is significant. Hundreds of lives saved begins to "move the needle" on this national crisis. Our aim... "eliminate veteran suicide". The Board believes this vision is possible with an increased awareness of the crisis, and by teaming with corporate sponsors, business and government leaders who will both fund and mentor these service men and women and restore hope and purpose in their lives.

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

Wounded warriors enrolling in the in-patient program will receive holistic, evidenced based treatment services for themselves, and their families. Each hospital also provides intensive out-patient programs designed to meet the unique needs of the service member and their family at no cost to them. All services are fully funded through philanthropists, individual donations, and corporate sponsorships.

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

The programs integrate evidenced-based psychological and psycho-pharmacological treatments, rehabilitative medicine, wellness, nutrition, mindfulness training, and family support with the aim of helping warriors thrive, not just survive. Warriors receive on average more than 70 direct clinical treatment hours. In addition, the programs are committed to serving family members with couples therapy, family counseling, and wellness training.

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



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The post 9.11 wounded warrior community from any branch of service. There are more than 52,000 who have been wounded in action, more than 1,700 major limb amputations, and it is estimated that more than 500,000 suffer from PTS and or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). There have been 341 warriors from Florida who have completed the PTS protocol through the WCN; 14,794 wounded warriors from Florida are registered alumni of the Wounded Warrior Project, the overarching umbrella of the Warrior Care Network; Home Base South West Florida is an affiliate of Home Base (Boston). 100 wounded warriors will utilize Home Base South West Florida in 2022.

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

Wounded warriors have given their all to preserve and protect our freedoms. Thousands have come home injured, in some cases traumatically injured. Transition with these injuries is a major challenge. In the critical step of resolving PTS, these protocols allow us to give back to them and provide them hope and purpose in the civilian sector. Many tell us..."this program saved my marriage, saved my life". How do we measure the value of a life? We can't. The benefit and outcome is that these funds raise awareness, they provide the wellness counseling and care that literally saves lives.

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?

Deliverable and performance measures will be met throughout the year as wounded warriors complete the PTS protocols.

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.

None



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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