



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2022-2023

LFIR # 2630

1. Project Title IDignity Statewide Operational Headquarters - Orlando

2. Senate Sponsor Linda Stewart

3. Date of Request 01/20/2022

4. Project/Program Description

Construction of IDignity's Statewide Operational Headquarters. This facility will be built on land already owned by IDignity in downtown Orlando and will be the first permanent home of IDignity since its inception in 2008. IDignity's mission is to assist citizens and legal residents of the United States in obtaining their legal identification documents. Access to these documents is the crucial first step to securing education, employment, housing, proper healthcare, and numerous other opportunities. It is estimated that 11% of U.S. adult citizens do not currently possess valid government-issued photo identification. To date, IDignity has served over 25,000 Floridians in Orange County and thousands more through affiliated programs in the surrounding counties. The IDignity Statewide Operational Headquarters will facilitate and accelerate the expansion of IDignity's unique service to communities throughout the State of Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Economic Opportunity

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested	1,500,000

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)	1,500,000	43%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	2,000,000	57%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2022-2023	3,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2017-18	0	50,000	2198A	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.

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.

- City of Orlando CDBG-CV - \$145,300 (COVID-19 protection and operational adjustments)
- Orange County CDBG-CV - \$64,180 (COVID-19 protection and operational adjustments)
- SBA PPP 1.0 - \$89,814 (payroll)
- SBA PPP 2.0 - \$111,463 (payroll and rent)

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		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	The requested state funds will be expended toward the construction of IDignity's Statewide Operational Headquarters on land in Central Florida already owned by IDignity. This land was purchased through local private contributions. The requested state funds may also be allocated toward the demolition of the existing dilapidated warehouse on the site along with further site development.	1,500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,500,000

12. Program Performance

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

The specific purpose that will be achieved by the funds requested is the construction of IDignity's Statewide Operational Headquarters. This facility will greatly improve operational stability, security, and long-term sustainability. It will also provide the foundation to significantly expand IDignity's success in replication so that it can be a resource for communities throughout the State of Florida.

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

IDignity has already made a cash purchase of the site for its Statewide Operational Headquarters through local private contributions. This land has been deemed viable for construction through environmental and engineering tests. The preliminary architectural and engineering drawings have been completed as have detailed estimates on the total project cost. IDignity has also had favorable reviews with the City of Orlando Permitting Department. The requested state funds will be expended toward the construction of IDignity's Statewide Operational Headquarters, including demolition of the existing dilapidated warehouse on the site along with further site development.

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



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The direct service provided to citizens by this project is to assist those who are unable to obtain their legal identification documents on their own. The documents that IDignity assists clients in obtaining are typically birth certificates, social security cards, and Florida IDs or driver's licenses. Yet in order to qualify for these identification documents, IDignity case managers often need to acquire school records, medical records, military records, incarceration records, and baptismal records among numerous other background documents. IDignity also provides staff attorneys for client legal representation that is necessary to resolve the more difficult identification cases such as court-ordered name changes, amended birth certificates or delayed birth certificates, and corrections to social security records.

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

The target population is U.S. citizens and legal residents who are unable to obtain their legal identification documents on their own. The inability to access legal identification is typically caused by a lack of financial resources or not being able to obtain the background documents required to be eligible to apply for primary government identification. IDignity facilitates all of the necessary processes and covers all the costs for our clients. The cost coverage is necessary as nearly 90% of IDignity's clients live below the poverty line often due to the inability to legally work until IDignity assists them in solving their identification access problems. IDignity expects to serve over 3,000 clients per year in person at its operational headquarters. It is anticipated that this facility will also provide the infrastructure necessary for remote statewide assistance that ultimately could serve over 30,000 Floridian's per year.

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

The expected benefit of this project is to increase the capacity and number of clients that IDignity can assist, over 95% of whom will successfully obtain their various forms of legal identification. IDignity continually tracks and measures the number of clients served and documents procured. A two-year study revealed that within three months of IDignity clients obtaining their legal identification the following outcomes were produced. 55% of clients improved their housing status, 33% obtained a primary care provider, and 38% of unemployed clients secured legal employment. This study proves that if we equipt individuals with the tools that are legally required to improve their lives, a vast majority of them will do so. IDignity's ultimate outcome is that by providing individuals access to their legal identification documents not only are we empowering these individuals to better their own lives we are also cultivating a more productive, inclusive, and secure society for us all.

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?

A suggested penalty to consider would be the return of awarded funds if contractual deliverables are not met.

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.

IDignity Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization and will be the owner of the IDignity Statewide Operational Headquarters. It is also the existing owner of the facility site. IDignity Inc. is governed by an elected volunteer board of directors composed of 15-20 community leaders and staffed by 10 employees.



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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