



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1407

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

The Faulk Center provides low-cost, no-cost mental health services to low-income individuals and families who otherwise would be unable to afford services. Serving over 1,500 individuals from Palm Beach and Broward Counties each year, the Center's model of care utilizes doctoral interns and graduate students to provide personalized individual, couple, family, and group counseling services. All services are overseen, managed, and evaluated by licensed clinicians who ensure services align with the American Psychological Association (APA) evidence-based recommendations for the assessment and treatment of psychiatric disorders. Funding from the State will allow the Center to provide 1000 uninsured or low-income clients with free or reduced cost services. By making services accessible, we can improve the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of individuals so that they can cope with the stresses of life, work productively, and make meaningful contributions to their community.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds**

State Agency contacted? Yes

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	325,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	325,000

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	325,000	15%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	15,000	1%
Other	1,737,450	84%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	2,077,450	100%

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

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	250,000	378	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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In the event state funding is not secured, the Faulk Center will continue to seek out private grants and foundation funding and conduct fund-raising events to cover the costs of providing low-cost, no-cost mental health services. However, services will be impacted.

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

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

In FY20/21, the Faulk Center for Counseling received Paycheck Protection Program loans totaling \$257,655. This loan was used to off set the costs of existing payroll expenses. The loans have been forgiven.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. Status of Construction

a. What is the current phase of the project?

- Planning
 Design
 Construction
 N/A

b. Is the project "shovel ready" (i.e permitted)?

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

12. List 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.

13. 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	The Center employs 3.5 FTE psychologists and 4.5 FTE LMHC/LCSW at a cost of \$643,300 to oversee the clinical services we provide through our APA-approved internship program (4.5 doctoral interns), practicum program (35 graduate and/or doctoral students), and RMHIs (9). The professional supervision of these clinicians in trainings ensures the effective delivery of proven mental health services.	226,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	The Center operates an APA approved internship program. This academic year, the Center is taking on 4.5 doctoral interns, at a cost of \$99,000, to provide direct clinical mental health services. Interns come from accredited universities and are rigorously vetted and regularly evaluated by on site licensed clinicians to ensure that the quality of services.	99,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		325,000

14. Program Performance

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

The APA has found that economically disadvantaged, racial/ethnic, gender, and sexual minorities suffer from poor mental health outcomes at higher-levels due to inaccessibility of mental health care services, cultural stigma surrounding mental health care, discrimination, and overall lack of awareness. With a primary focus on low-income children, adults, seniors, and families, the Center serves those with the highest need. We provide personalized treatment for a variety of mental health issues with the goal of improving the emotional, psychological, and social well-being of individuals, couples and families.

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

Clients who receive counseling services are provided a treatment plan based on their individual needs and approved therapies identified in the Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Progress is measured based on improvements from baseline assessments of symptomatic and functional impacts, identified during the initial intake and early sessions. Issues being treated are often the result of many underlying and intertwined dynamics. Clinicians are aware of this and are trained to adjust their approach, strategies, and timeline for progress to match that of the issues being presented by the client.

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

Clients work one-on-one with a mental health clinician in a safe, caring, and confidential environment. Individuals are provided the opportunity to freely explore their feelings, beliefs, and behaviors so they can identify and work through aspects of their lives where change is desired. Weekly group counseling and support groups provide opportunities to reduce isolation, receive peer support, and collectively heal. Services to vulnerable populations, including seniors and children, are targeted through on site programs. Regular education and outreach events supplement the care of those who utilize our services.

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

The target population for counseling services is low-income, no-income, uninsured and/or underinsured clients who reside in Palm Beach County and/or North Broward County. The Center provides service to over 1,600 individuals each year. State funding will allow us to provide reduced/no-cost services to 1200 individuals who financially qualify. Services rates are already very accessible starting at 1/3 the cost of comparable services. Reduced rates are offered for individuals with a family income between 120-400% of the federal poverty levels (on a sliding scale). No-cost services are offered to those with a family income less than 120% of the federal poverty level.

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

Progress is measured by the reduction or leveling off of symptomatic impacts (e.g. depression, anxiety) and increases in self-esteem, self-worth and/or functional improvements such as better self-care, control of negative/disrupting behaviors, or increased engagement in community, home, school and/or work life. The following outcome will be tracked for this funding: 75% of 1200 clients will demonstrate decreased symptomatic impacts OR increased functionality (engagement/social skills/behavior control/etc.) over a period of 12 weeks or upon exit as measured by clinical notes, clinical observation and client feedback.

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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For over 50 years, the Faulk Center has provided low-cost, no-cost psychological and mental health services to low-income individuals and families who otherwise would be unable to afford services. Our ability to effectively provide these services without interruption has allowed us to establish a reputation that is beyond reproach. We are confident that we will meet the stated outcomes. Penalties for not meeting contracted deliverables may warrant decreased funding.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. **First Name** **Last Name**

b. **Organization**

c. **E-mail Address**

d. **Phone Number** **Ext.**

16. 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**

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. **Name**

b. **Firm Name**

c. **E-mail Address**

d. **Phone Number**