



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1429

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired (CDCVI) is requesting funding to update a 27-year old HVAC system at its 27,000-square-foot facility. The building includes a residential living center with 16 dorm rooms, in addition to 3 apartments, a commercial kitchen, classrooms, offices, a large community room, and more. The facility assists blind and visually impaired individuals of all ages with therapy and practical skills for independent living. The HVAC system must be updated for the agency to continue services.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

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

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

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)	500,000	84%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	98,075	16%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	598,075	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

9. Is future funding likely to be requested?

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?



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1429

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

CDCVI received \$382,400 in PPP funds which were used for agency payroll expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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)?

Yes

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

May 6, 2024

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

January 31, 2025

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.

The facility is owned and used by Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired, a 501 C3 nonprofit 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	HVAC system modifications for 27,000-square-foot building serving blind and visually impaired persons. While the building is located in Volusia County, individuals who are blind with a co-occurring disability throughout the state of Florida come to CDCVI to receive independent living training in conjunction with vocational training to become self-sufficient contributors to their local economies.	500,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1429

The current HVAC system is in a state of disrepair and must be updated as soon as possible. The 27,000 square-foot facility is a residential independent living facility for individuals who are blind and also have an additional co-occurring disability (such as blind and deaf, or blind and non-ambulatory). The facility also includes offices for the 50+ Conklin Davis Center staff who provide therapy and classes for blind individuals from throughout the state of Florida. More than 300 clients utilize the facility on a routine basis. In order to continue to provide services at this facility, the HVAC system must be updated. Several components have exceeded their useful life. Funds will allow for the replacement of the major parts of the system including the chiller and the control system, enabling Conklin Davis Center to continue to utilize the property for their services for blind and visually impaired persons from throughout the state of Florida.

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

Modification of the HVAC system in the 27,000 square-foot building utilized for blind services.

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

CDCVI's services include a residential independent living program that includes vocational training and employment assistance. This one-year program helps individuals who are blind with a co-occurring disability learn the skills they need to live independently and become self-sufficient contributors to their community. 85% of the individuals who complete the program become employed in Volusia County. Additional direct services provided at the facility are for non-residential blind or visually impaired persons and include a blind babies program (with therapy and support for both the child and care givers), orientation and mobility programs teaching blind individuals how to navigate their world independently, an onsite vocational training and employment program, programs for children and teens who are blind or visually impaired, senior independent living programs and group therapy classes, adjustment to blindness counseling, technology training, and more.

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

Individuals who are blind or visually impaired will benefit from this project in addition to more than fifty staff who work at the facility. A minimum of 300 individuals blind or visually impaired persons will benefit from the updating of the HVAC system during year one. During the next two decades it is estimated that 5,000 or more will benefit from services received at CDCVI.

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

Improved energy efficiency - measured by utility bills; Improved comfort for occupants in the building - measured by number of days the HVAC system is working properly; Reduction of office downtime - measured by number of days the HVAC system is working properly; Improved air quality with advanced filtration and air ventilation qualities - measured by comparison to failing HVAC system; Improved environmental impact - measured by comparison to failing HVAC system versus modern HVAC system with reduced carbon emissions and reduced environmental impact; Accessibility Improvements - measured by existing system which is not disability-friendly compared to new system which offers user-friendly controls for visually impaired persons.

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?

The HVAC system components will be installed with the appropriations award within 12 months or funding will be returned.

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



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1429

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