

The Florida Senate Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 2863

1.	Project Title	Homeownership E	quity Initiati	ve						
2.	Senate Sponsor	Geraldine Thompso	on							
3.	Date of Request	12/21/2023								
4.	Project/Program Des	scription								
	The Homeownership Equity Initiative aims to boost homeownership and reduce the racial wealth gap in Central Florida. Its objectives include: a. Increasing BIPOC homeownership by assisting 5,000 households over five years with comprehensive resources and support. b. Challenging economic practices to tackle systemic barriers and promote shared prosperity, emphasizing homeownership and wealth-building for equitable access. c. Capitalizing on the current momentum to break down barriers and advance housing market equity. Collaboration, amplifying BIPOC voices, and driving lasting change are key. d. Providing accessible financial empowerment, homebuyer education, and housing counseling in multiple languages and convenient locations to ensure inclusivity and successful navigation of the homebuying process.									
5.	State Agency to rece	eive requested fund	ds De	partme	ent of Commerce					
	State Agency contac	cted? No								
6. /	Amount of the Nonre	ecurring Request fo	or Fiscal Ye	ar 202	24-2025					
	Type of Funding				Amo	ount				
	Operations				576,523					
	Fixed Capital Outlay				0					
Total State Funds Requested 576,523										
	Total State Fullus Ri	equestea				370,323	J			
	Total Project Cost fo	•	2025 (inclu	ding r	natching funds ava	·	-			
		•	2025 (inclu	ding r	natching funds ava	·	-			
	Total Project Cost fo	r Fiscal Year 2024-	·	ding r		ilable for this proj	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding	r Fiscal Year 2024-	·	ding r	Amount	ilable for this proj	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re	r Fiscal Year 2024-	·	ding r	Amount	ilable for this proj	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds	r Fiscal Year 2024-:	ion #6)	ding r	Amount 576,523	ilable for this proj Percentage 100% 0%	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a	r Fiscal Year 2024-:	ion #6)	ding r	Amount 576,523	ilable for this proj Percentage 100% 0% 0% 0%	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a	r Fiscal Year 2024-:	ion #6)	ding r	Amount 576,523	ilable for this proj Percentage 100% 0%	ect)			
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7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a Local Other	quested (from quest	ion #6) st) 4-2025		Amount 576,523 0 0 0 0	Percentage 100% 0% 0% 0%	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a Local Other Total Project Costs	quested (from quest	ion #6) st) 4-2025 ate funding		Amount 576,523 0 0 0 576,523 No Specific	Percentage 100% 0% 0% 0%	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a Local Other Total Project Costs Has this project prev	quested (from quest amount of this request for Fiscal Year 2024	ion #6) st) 4-2025 ate funding	1?	Amount 576,523 0 0 0 0 576,523	Percentage	ect)			
7.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the allocal) Other Total Project Costs for the cost of t	quested (from quest amount of this reques for Fiscal Year 2024 viously received sta	ion #6) st) 4-2025 ate funding	1?	Amount 576,523 0 0 0 576,523 No Specific	Percentage	ect)			
7. 8.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the allocal) Other Total Project Costs for the cost of t	quested (from quest amount of this reques viously received sta	ion #6) 4-2025 ate funding nt Nonrecurr	1?	Amount 576,523 0 0 0 576,523 No Specific	Percentage	ect)			
7. 8.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the allocal Other Total Project Costs for the cost of th	quested (from quest amount of this reques for Fiscal Year 2024 viously received sta Amou Recurring	ion #6) st) 4-2025 ate funding nt Nonrecurr	1?	Amount 576,523 0 0 0 576,523 No Specific Appropriation #	Percentage	ect)			
7. 8.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the a Local Other Total Project Costs Has this project prevention of the project prevention of the project of the	quested (from quest amount of this request viously received sta Amou Recurring ely to be requested inrecurring amount	ion #6) 4-2025 ate funding nt Nonrecurr ? per year.	j?	Amount	Percentage 100% 0% 0% 0% 100%	ect)			
7. 8.	Total Project Cost fo Type of Funding Total State Funds Re Matching Funds Federal State (excluding the allocal Other Total Project Costs for the cost of th	quested (from quest amount of this request viously received sta Amou Recurring ely to be requested inrecurring amount	ion #6) 4-2025 ate funding nt Nonrecurr ? per year.	j?	Amount	Percentage 100% 0% 0% 0% 100%	ect)			



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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pande No If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.	mic?
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 relationship between the owners of the facility and the entity.	de 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	Salaries for Director of Real Estate Development (\$120,000), Director of Resource Development (\$85,000), 50% salary for Director of Strategic Community Initiatives (\$37,300) and Admin. Asst.(\$40,000); taxes (\$21,596) and benefits (\$84,690)	388,586				
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other		0				
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0				
Operational Costs: Other						
Salary and Benefits		0				
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/ Other	Marketing (\$1,655), Printing (\$329), Events (\$38,753), Chamber Memberships and Subscriptions (\$8,200)	48,937				
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Housing Counseling Services (\$85,000), Credit Repair Services (\$49,000), Public Relations Consultant (\$5,000)	139,000				
Fixed Capital Construction/Majo	r Renovation:					
Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0				
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6) 576,52						

14. Program Performance

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



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The goal of Homeownership Equity Initiative is to develop 5,000 new homeowners of color in Central Florida by 2029 to bridge the homeownership gap, increase housing and financial stability, and create generational wealth for those households. This includes policy change, new builds and rehabs for affordable homeownership, and preparation of potential homeowners, including financial literacy, down payment assistance, housing counseling, and coaches to walk beside homebuyers to help the navigate the process.

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

Through this initiative, individuals will assess their homebuying needs and receive dedicated Coaches to provide guidance, resource connections, and prevent overwhelm. Builders will create starter homes to address Central Florida's housing shortage. Policy changes will enhance affordable homeownership options and promote equity for people of color, leading to substantial impact.

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

The Homeownership Equity Initiative prioritizes personalized support, offering Housing Counseling and Credit Repair services tailored to participants' needs. Additionally, informational events will empower residents to grasp the initiative. inquire, and navigate the process, further underscoring its impact. Event-related expenses, including printing, are accounted for as direct service costs.

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

The target population to be served is people of color who are seeking opportunities for homeownership in Central Florida. This initiative targets multiple income levels, but at least 50% of the participants will be low-to-moderate income households. The overall initiative will serve 5,000 new homeowners over five years, but we anticipate approximately 400 new homeowners in the first year.

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

Homeownership fosters wealth accumulation through property appreciation, stimulating local economic activity. It strengthens communities, driving support for local businesses and services. Increasing homeownership raises property values, boosting property tax revenue for essential services. Additionally, home improvement projects generate income for construction and renovation sectors. opportunities, and tax revenue in areas where the homeownership initiative was implemented. For example, you might measure a 15% increase in local tax revenue or a 10% rise in new businesses opening in communities that have benefited from the initiative.

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?

Reputational damage done by not achieving our objectives. 15. Requester Contact Information Last Name Blue a. First Name **Bright Community Trust** b. Organization

c. E-mail Address | traci@thebrightway.org

d. Phone Number (407)310-1067 Ext.

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization **Bright Community Trust**

b. Municipality and County | Orange

c. Organization Type

□For Profit Entity



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☑Non Profit 501(c	:)(3)						
□Non Profit 501(c	□Non Profit 501(c)(4)						
□Local Entity							
□University or Co	□University or College						
□Other (please sp	□Other (please specify)						
d. First Name	Frank	Last Name	Wells				
e. E-mail Address	frank@thebrightway.org						
f. Phone Number	(727)475-1366						
17. Lobbyist Contact Information							
a. Name	None						
b. Firm Name							
c. E-mail Address							
d Phone Number							