



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 1225

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Building Homes for Heroes will continue its mission of rebuilding lives for Florida veterans who have honorably served and returned home tragically injured. We plan to complete a minimum of 20 projects to help injured veterans and their family members gain or maintain housing. We will prioritize injured Florida veterans whose lives have been altered by emergencies, economic struggles, weather-related disasters and any difficulties they already face transitioning from military to civilian life. We'd also help as many as 60 veterans and 200 family members with team building, physical health and mental wellness programs; and 50 veterans and their families, with emergency funding. In total, we plan to help a minimum of 300 Florida residents, including injured veterans and their family members. To accomplish this, e plan to invest an additional \$2,500,000 for a return of investment to the State of Florida of at least \$3,500,000 -- a 3.5:1 return on investment for the Great State of Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	1,000,000	29%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	2,500,000	71%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026	3,500,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?
- If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2021-22	0	1,000,000		No

9. Is future-year 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.



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Building Homes for Heroes is fortunate to receive funding from individual donors, foundations, and corporations like Lowe's, Chase, SAIC and more. But with Florida being such a well-known veteran-friendly state, any Florida funds would allow us to devote even more assistance and resources towards Florida veterans, of which we have much demand. This would allow us to invest an additional \$2,500,000 into this project and directly into the State of Florida.

Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

10. 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?

e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

11. 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.

12. 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		
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	100% of funds will go directly to the building or modification of homes for injured Veterans. 100% of all funds will go toward mission expense.	1,000,000
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		1,000,000

13. Program Performance

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



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Our goal will be to keep injured and struggling Florida veterans housed by helping them maintain their current homes, build or modify homes, or help displaced veterans with temporary housing. With \$1 million, we would help a minimum of 20 injured veterans and their families. We'd also help as many as 60 veterans and 200 family members with team building, physical health and mental wellness programs, and 50 veterans with emergency funding. In addition to helping these families, we plan to invest an additional \$2,500,000 for a return of investment to the State of Florida of at least \$3,500,000 -- a 3.5:1 return.

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

Building Homes for Heroes has a vast network of veteran applicants exceeding 5,000 who are currently asking for our help. Home projects will focus on keeping veterans housed, including helping veterans with mold remediation from water damage, mortgage payments, taxes, home repairs caused by storm damage, temporary housing expenses for displaced veterans, utilities, insurance deductibles, home modifications to increase accessibility and gifting homes when feasible. We'll also host a massive 3-day, 2-night Team Building event in Orlando in May to support 60 veterans and 200 family members. Last, we'd provide emergency funding to 50 veterans in the state of Florida through our emergency funding program.

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

We will prioritize injured Florida veterans who are struggling with their physical and mental injuries and who whose lives have been altered by emergencies, economic struggles, weather-related disasters, and any difficulties they already face transitioning from military to civilian life, including but not limited to mold remediation from water damage, mortgage-payments, taxes, home repairs caused by storm damage, temporary housing expenses for displaced veterans, utilities, insurance deductibles, home modifications to increase accessibility, and gifting mortgage-free homes for injured veterans to own, live in and recover in. We'll also host a massive 3-day, 2-night Team Building event in Orlando in May to support 60 veterans and 200 family members. Last, we'd provide emergency funding to 50 veterans in the state of Florida through our emergency funding program.

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

The most direct benefactor will be the hundreds of Florida veterans for whom we will be helping with home repairs, team building, physical health and mental wellness programs and emergency funding. Additionally, their immediate family members whose lives are also severely affected by the struggles veterans endure, will also directly life-changing impact. Furthermore, hundreds of Florida residents, including contractors and vendors will also see a benefit as a result of economic advancement through increased employment opportunities, elevated property values and improved infrastructure.

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

The methodology will be the number of veterans we help with housing. We will aim to help a minimum of 20 Florida veterans and their families gain or maintain housing with a return on investment of at least \$3.5 million to the State of Florida. The methodology will be the return on investment we bring to the Florida economy, as well as the return on life we will provide to continue our mission to build better and brighter lives for our injured veterans.

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 in the contract?

We would recommend the same penalty from previous years' grant requests: With our plan to help a minimum of 20 veterans with housing, we recommend a penalty of \$40,000 per veteran we fail to help. But with the hope of helping more than 20 veterans, please know we have every intention of fulfilling all of our contract obligations.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? ☐ Yes

a. If Yes, what phase best describes the project?

- ☐ Mitigation (reducing or eliminating potential loss of life or property)
- ☐ Response (addressing the immediate and short-term effects of a natural disaster)
- ☒ Recovery (assisting communities return to normal operations, including rebuilding damaged infrastructure)



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b. Name of the natural disaster (or Executive Order # for events not under a federal declaration):

Hurricane Milton and Hurricane Helene

15. Has the entity applied for or received federal assistance for this project?

☐ Yes, Applied

☐ Yes, Received

☒ No

☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, provide the FEMA project worksheet ID#:

b. Provide the total project cost listed on the FEMA project worksheet:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

☐ Yes, Applied

☐ Yes, Received

☒ No

☐ No, but intends to apply

a. If yes, specify the program and state agency (ex. Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan, Department of Commerce):

17. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name Last Name

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number Ext.

18. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type

☐ For Profit Entity

☒ Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- ☐ 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 Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number

The information provided will be posted to the Florida Senate website for public viewing if sponsored by a Senator.