



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2025-2026

LFIR # 2403

1. Project Title Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County Clubhouse at Tradition

2. Senate Sponsor Erin Grall

3. Date of Request 3/3/2025

#### 4. Project/Program Description

Since 1994, the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County (BGCSLC) has been to advocate for and enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. BGCSLC provides a Club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters its doors; with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle. BGCSLC serves more than 5,200 registered members in 8 neighborhood Clubhouses and 17 school-based Clubs county-wide. Despite its dramatic population growth, the Tradition area of Port St. Lucie lacks a neighborhood BGCSLC Clubhouse that can deliver a full range of educational, social, and recreational programs to youth. Construction of a Clubhouse would facilitate access to a safe location where programs and services can be offered to area youth.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Education

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>

#### 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)	2,000,000	18%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	3,000,000	26%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	4,500,000	39%
Other	2,000,000	17%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2025-2026</b>	<b>11,500,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

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

9. Is future-year 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.



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## 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)?

No

c. What is the estimated start date of construction?

11/1/2025

d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

11/30/2026

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

BGCSLC secures most funding through a combination of private pay, major annual events, government and foundation grants, individual contributions, and corporate philanthropy. BGCSLC has successfully relied on this diversified funding approach to effectively support its mission of empowering local youth, and would expect to continue to do so at the Tradition Clubhouse.

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.

Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County is the entity and the owner of the facility. Chief Executive Officer, William Armstead (requester), will receive the fixed capital outlay funding for the purpose of fulfilling this request.

### 12. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs</b>		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction of a Boys & Girls Club Clubhouse at Tradition in Port St. Lucie	2,000,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>2,000,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



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Despite its dramatic population growth, the Tradition area of Port St. Lucie lacks a neighborhood BGCSLC Clubhouse by which a full range of educational, social, and recreational programs can be delivered to youth. Construction of a Clubhouse would facilitate access to a safe location to offer programs and services to youth in this area.

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

Construction and operation of this Clubhouse will allow BGCSLC to fill a pressing community need for after school and summer programs for K-12 neighborhood youth. The Clubhouse will offer youth a safe place to learn and grow academically, build workforce and soft skills, develop leadership skills, cultivate friendships, enjoy physical recreation, experience mentoring in a caring environment, explore personal interests, and receive encouragement from a supportive BGCSLC community of youth and adults. Club members are also provided healthy snacks and meals.

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

BGCSLC offers youth quality educational, healthy lifestyles, recreational, creative, social, and leadership programs and experiences. These programs also nurture a sense of belonging, competence, and usefulness, thereby building their self-confidence/self-esteem and empowering them to lead productive lives when furthering their education, entering the workforce, or serving their communities. When it opens the new Tradition Clubhouse, St. Lucie Public Schools will transport youth to the facility.

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

The target population is youth in grades K-12. An expected 250-400 youth per day are expected to be served at this location. This location lacks a walkable public library, a walkable community center, and supervised public parks. The Florida Department of Health (2025) indicates that 53-68% of youth attending public schools, in the area where the Clubhouse will be located, qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. The Department also (2024) indicates that 50% of SLC youth struggle in English Language Arts, Reading, and Math. Findings of its FL Youth Substance Abuse Survey (2024) indicate that nearly 25% of St. Lucie County's high and middle school students considered suicide, with 40% experiencing symptoms of depression.

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

Expected outcomes include: 1) reduced gang activity; 2) reduced substance abuse; 3) on-target high school graduation; 4) acquisition of workforce skills and/or pre-apprenticeship training; 5) employment and/or internships; and 6) learned/improved mental wellness, self-awareness, and positive decision-making. Outcomes are measured through quantitative and qualitative methods: 1) Youth and parent/guardian surveys; 2) Annual assessment through the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth Outcome Initiative to measure attitudes and behaviors; 3) Observations and interviews; 4) Data collection; and 5) Pre/post program testing.

**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?**

Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County (BGCSLC) will adhere to all rules/regulations associated with administering the grant contract. We intend to fully utilize all of the appropriated funds. Failure to meet deliverables should result in standard contract penalties. BGCSLC would also return associated funding for any portion of the project not be completed.

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

**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)

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



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**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)

☐ Non Profit 501(c)(4)



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☐ 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.*