



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1061

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The Military to Civilian Statewide Integration Program provides coordinated transition support for service members leaving active duty and relocating to Florida. Through the Florida Veterans Coalition's partnerships with military installations across the U.S., the program connects transitioning service members with certified community sponsors, statewide veteran resources, and critical services in housing, employment, education, healthcare, and financial stability. This initiative reduces veteran suicide risk, increases workforce participation, and strengthens Florida's economy by integrating over 2,000+ new veterans & 5,000 veterans and their families annually into communities across all 67 counties.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds

State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

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

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	500,000	100%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	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		

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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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	n/a	0
Other Salary and Benefits	n/a	0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Office Supplies \$4,100; Office Rental \$21,600; Insurance \$1,450; Legal and Professional \$352; Website/ Marketing/ Advertising \$2,583; Admin \$3,000; Technology \$3,000.	36,085
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting \$5,000 Other \$3,000	8,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	(2) Veteran Program Staff (2) Veteran Resources Specialist, (3) Veteran Engagement Specialist, (2) Peer Support Specialist, (2) Program Support Staff	355,915
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) certification, Peer Mentorship training, community education seminars, and Veteran wellness workshops. Data management and digital communication tools for case tracking and sponsor-Veteran coordination, Outreach and Community Engagement.	75,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Program Evaluation Partner, Specialized Wellness and Resilience Services & production of education and outreach materials supporting Veteran transition and suicide prevention programming.	25,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

13. Program Performance

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



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The requested funds will expand the Military to Civilian Statewide Integration Program, a coordinated initiative led by the Florida Veterans Coalition that works in conjunction with transitioning service members on installations across the United States. Every service member through this program receives early, structured support through certified VA sponsors and access to housing, employment, education, healthcare, and financial resources. This funding will strengthen FVC across 67 counties, enhance suicide prevention and wellness services, and build the infrastructure needed to track outcomes statewide. The program directly supports Florida's mission to reduce veteran suicide and increase successful reintegration into the civilian workforce.

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

Funds will support coordinated transition and suicide prevention services through the Florida Veterans Coalition's Community Integration Coordinator (CIC) program. Activities include recruiting and training certified VA sponsors under the Veteran Sponsorship Initiative, conducting risk assessments, and connecting transitioning service members to housing, employment, education, healthcare, and financial resources. Regional task forces will coordinate with local VSOs, nonprofits, and county agencies to ensure direct access to support. Additional services include financial literacy and wellness coaching, community education seminars, and applied suicide intervention training. The program ensures early engagement—up to 12 months before separation—and ongoing support to improve stability, resilience, and long-term veteran outcomes across Florida.

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

Direct services will be provided to transitioning service members, veterans, and their families through personalized case management, peer sponsorship, and coordinated access to critical resources. Each participant will receive a customized transition plan supported by a trained VA-certified sponsor, connecting them to housing assistance, employment opportunities, education benefits, financial literacy programs, and healthcare navigation. The program will also provide suicide prevention and wellness services, including Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and individual wellness coaching. These direct, community-based interventions ensure veterans entering Florida are supported, stabilized, and empowered to successfully reintegrate into civilian life while reducing risk factors associated with veteran suicide.

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

The target population includes transitioning service members, veterans, and their families relocating to or residing in Florida. The program focuses on individuals within 12 months of military separation and recently transitioned veterans at higher risk of isolation or suicide. Through statewide coordination and community partnerships, the initiative is expected to serve approximately 1,200 transitioning service members annually, with indirect benefits reaching more than 5,000 veterans and family members through access to housing, employment, education, and wellness resources.

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

Funding will enable the Florida Veterans Coalition to expand critical support and coordination services for transitioning service members, veterans, and their families across the state. Outcome measures will include: (1) the number of veterans and service members connected to housing, employment, education, and benefits assistance; (2) the number of individuals participating in suicide prevention, financial literacy, and wellness programs; (3) successful referrals to community and clinical partners for mental health and crisis intervention; and (4) engagement outcomes measured through partner reports, participant feedback, and verified follow-ups to ensure long-term stability and reintegration.

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?

The Florida Veterans Coalition is committed to meeting all deliverables and performance measures outlined in the contract. With a proven history of accountability and successful statewide program delivery, FVC will implement immediate corrective actions if performance goals are not met.

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)



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- ☐ 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):

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



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- ☐ 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 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.