



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1147

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

In FY 2021–2022, 1,739 youths were arrested in Miami-Dade, continuing a long-term decline. A University of Miami and Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust study found youth arrests dropped 76% from 2010 (6,986) to 2022 (1,654), though there was a slight increase from 2021 to 2022. The share of arrested youth residing in Miami-Dade fell from 94% in 2010 to 90% in 2022. To further reduce arrests, Regis House, Inc. proposes expanding its diversion program with mental health counseling and family therapy to address underlying issues. Research shows family-based diversion reduces rearrest rates to 4%, compared to 17% overall, strengthening communities.

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	250,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	250,000

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)	250,000	52%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	233,000	48%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	483,000	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		
2025-26	0	200,000	1118	Yes

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.

Local and county government funding through partnership with Miami-Dade County the City of Miami.



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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	Funding will support the salary and benefits of the Executive Director / Project Lead, who will oversee program implementation, administration, and compliance. This individual will manage operations, coordinate with agencies, supervise staff, and ensure financial accountability.	45,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Funding will support the salary and benefits of an administrative staff member responsible for coordination, scheduling, documentation, compliance tracking, and reporting to ensure efficient program operations.	10,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding will support rent, utilities, and office equipment to maintain essential infrastructure for administration, service coordination, and client support, including data and communication systems.	10,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funding will support financial management, compliance, and risk mitigation, including accounting, audits, and malpractice insurance to ensure oversight, regulatory adherence, and service continuity.	15,000
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Funding will support key personnel: a Clinical Director for oversight and compliance, a Program Coordinator for operations and records, and Mental Health Counselors for therapy and reducing recidivism—roles essential to expanding services and improving outcomes.	150,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding will support operational needs, including equipment, supplies, and other expenses. This may cover technology, office supplies, clinical tools, and materials for counseling, outreach, and educational resources.	8,000



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Funding will support compliance, efficiency, and quality assurance through contracted personnel handling credentialing, regulatory requirements, and best practice adherence, along with a secure Electronic Medical Records system for documentation and service continuity.	12,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		250,000

13. Program Performance

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

Funding this program strengthens protective factors for high-risk youth and their families, reducing recidivism and promoting prosocial behaviors. With over 154,000 Miami-Dade residents uninsured and many underinsured (U.S. Census), access to mental health services remains a challenge. This investment helps address community needs and lowers the long-term costs associated with crime recidivism.

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

The Adolescent & Families Outpatient Program (AFOP) works to prevent crime and reduce recidivism through timely interventions for high-risk youth and families. It promotes prosocial behaviors by teaching conflict resolution, communication, and problem-solving skills while addressing trauma, poverty, peer influence, and mental health, including substance abuse. AFOP reinforces positive behaviors, improves court compliance, and helps youth with criminal histories become contributing members of society.

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

This year-round program operates at two Miami-Dade locations and offers in-person and Telehealth counseling, individual and family therapy, and parenting sessions by licensed professionals and supervised interns. Youth and families receive a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment, with adolescents completing at least 12 therapy sessions and substance testing. Guardians join parenting and family sessions, and treatment plans are updated every four weeks. Progress reports are shared regularly with Juvenile Probation Officers.

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

The program serves adolescents arrested or cited and mandated to mental health counseling, mainly from low-income, high-crime areas. Common charges include aggravated assault, burglary, auto theft, and firearm possession; 90% are from minority groups. The goal is to enroll 180 youth annually, providing group, individual, and family therapy based on biopsychosocial assessments, plus weekly youth and parenting sessions. Regis House has partnered with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Miami-Dade Juvenile Services for 15 years.

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

The program builds resilience in youth and families, reducing rearrest rates and costly confinement (averaging \$588/day). Each adolescent is assigned a lead counselor who reports monthly to probation officers. Fewer than 10% are expected to be unsuccessfully discharged due to rearrest, with a 70% successful discharge rate and 90% satisfaction among participants. Enrollment lasts at least three months, averaging 45 participants at any time.

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?

Beyond standard penalties, the agency may apply measures for unmet deliverables, such as reducing or withholding future funding, requiring repayment of funds, or mandating corrective action plans with strict timelines. Increased oversight and monitoring may also be implemented to ensure compliance with contractual obligations and performance standards.

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



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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):

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**



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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 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.