



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1173

1. Project Title Academy at Glengary: Gateway to Career Placement for Adults with Serious Mental Illness

2. Senate Sponsor Joe Gruters

3. Date of Request 11/3/2025

4. Project/Program Description

Adults living with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI) lack the vocational skills needed to succeed in today's workforce. The Mental Health Clubhouse Supported Employment program is an evidence-based service that helps people living with SPMI find jobs in the competitive marketplace leading to financial self-sufficiency and a better quality of life. With state support, the Academy (based in Sarasota) launched a new Clubhouse in Bradenton. State funding would match \$1.5 million in private support from individuals and local charitable foundations to equip 250 Academy members from both the Sarasota and Manatee campuses with the skills needed to acquire competitive employment. A minimum of 100 Academy members will be placed in career-based employment with up to 45 local business partners who employ Academy members.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Children and Families

State Agency contacted? No

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	14%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	1,500,000	86%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,750,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

If yes, provide the most recent instance:

Fiscal Year (YYYY-YY)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2025-26	0	250,000	363	No

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)?

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	to purchase the necessary computers, monitors, electronic devices, network equipment, smartboards, hardware and software for integration of technology training into the Academy's vocational training curriculum. \$60,000 allotted to each Academy (Academy at Glengary in Sarasota County and Academy at Bradenton in Manatee County)	120,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	To contract 2 Technology Instructors, at \$65,000 each, for 1 year (one each for Academy at Glengary in Sarasota County and Academy at Bradenton in Manatee County) to design and incorporate technology training into the Academy's existing vocational training curriculum to prepare Academy members for Career placement.	130,000
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?



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State funding would match \$1.5M in private support, as well as funding from Manatee County and local charitable foundations, to equip 250 Academy members (adults living with serious mental illness) from both the Sarasota and Manatee campuses with the skills needed to acquire competitive employment. In addition, a minimum of 100 Academy members will be placed in career-based employment with up to 45 local business partners who employ Academy members. As evidence of the Academy's job placement success: Academy members collectively earned \$1,041,185 during the past FY ending June 30, 2025.

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

The Academy at Glengary and the Academy at Bradenton will provide hands-on vocational training while equipping Clubhouse members with the skills and industry certifications needed to fill the staffing needs for area employers. This will increase financial independence of adults living with SPMI, thereby transitioning individuals from being a tax burden to taxpayers.

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

250 Academy members (adults living with SPMI) from both the Sarasota and Manatee campuses will be equipped with the skills and certifications needed to acquire competitive employment. At a minimum, 100 Academy members will be placed in career-based employment with up to 45 local business partners who partner with the Academy to employ its members.

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

250 Adults with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness in Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

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

The program will ensure that the Academy at Glengary and the Academy at Bradenton are filling the staffing needs for area employers while equipping Clubhouse members with the skills needed to fill jobs, increasing economic self-reliance while reducing their dependency on state benefits. Success factors include the number of members who are placed in jobs in the community through Transitional, Supported and/or Independent Employment, and the number of business employers/partners recruited for member employment, and the reduction in hospitalization rates and emergency services. (Baker Acts).

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?

Disbursed funds for deliverables not met will be returned to the state.

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):

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

- ☐ Yes, Applied
- ☐ Yes, Received
- ☐ No



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☐ 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)

☐ Local Entity

☐ University or College

☐ Other (please specify)

d. First Name Last Name



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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.