



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1431

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Safe Families for Children (SFFC) Rural Reach Initiative will utilize funds to engage faith communities to recruit, train, vet and professionally support volunteers in rural areas which are typically under resourced for the purpose of stabilizing families who are in crisis to prevent child abuse and deflect families from unnecessarily entering into the child welfare dependency system. Socially isolated families in crisis are most vulnerable, but SFFC can connect those families with local volunteers to instantly enlarge that family's network of support.

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	317,500
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	317,500

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)	317,500	50%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	317,500	50%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	635,000	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.

**Complete questions 10 and 11 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects**



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#### 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
<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	Funds would be utilized for salary for each full time Area Coordinator and part-time Family Coach Supervisor. Salaries would include employee benefits.	280,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds would be utilized for insurance coverage, information technologies, human resources management, legal services, computer hardware, communications devices, and mileage expenses.	37,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>317,500</b>

#### 13. Program Performance

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

Funds received will be utilized to create community-based circles of support in rural counties with the purpose of stabilizing families to prevent child abuse and deflect families from unnecessarily entering into the child welfare dependency system. Families who are otherwise isolated will be connected with supportive volunteers in their own communities.

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



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SFFC (an evidence-based Family First Prevention program) will hire staff in rural counties to engage faith and community partners. SFFC will recruit, vet and oversee volunteers to support at risk families with children ages 0-18. Funds will also cover background checks, liability insurance and training for volunteers who are directly serving local families.

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

Direct services include temporary child hosting, parent mentoring, transportation, day time child care and connection to resources. These connections result in long term, natural relationships which outlast the need for formal support thus, the family experiences a decrease in social isolation and an increase in safety and stability.

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

Target populations for this project include jobless persons, economically disadvantaged person, at-risk youth, homeless persons, preschool students, grade school students, high school students, victims of crime, and single parents with children under the age of 18.

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

The family being served will experience an increase in their own Protective Factors which in turn will prevent any possibility of child abuse occurring. The extended family-like relationships built with volunteers will resolve that family's social isolation. Parent mentors will identify and develop a goal plan which will help the family become both stable and successful. SFFC will use the PFS2 assessment to monitor the progress of the family.

**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?**

Failure to meet deliverables would result in a return of funding 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
- ☐ 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:**



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**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**

**e. E-mail Address**

**f. Phone Number**  **Ext.**

**19. Lobbyist Contact Information**

**a. Name**

**b. Firm Name**

**c. E-mail Address**



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d. Phone Number

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