



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1519

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Clean Start Initiative, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting individuals recently released from incarceration or drug rehabilitation centers by providing mentoring and resources for successful reintegration into society. Our mission is to break the cycle of recidivism and poverty affecting our communities, particularly among minority populations, through holistic support and reestablishing connections with families.

We are seeking \$150,000.00 to fund our 12-step mentoring program designed to support participants through structured weekly sessions, ensuring they have access to essential resources provided by government agencies and private institutions. Over the past five years, Clean Start Initiative, Inc. has successfully mentored over 500 individuals, leading to improved family dynamics, reduced recidivism, and increased community involvement. With your financial support, we aim to expand our reach and enhance our programs over the next five years.

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	150,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	150,000

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)	150,000	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	150,000	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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In lieu of state funding our organization will have to devise several fundraising events until we raise enough to fund our project.

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)?

Yes

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	Provide overall leadership to Clean Start Initiative, Inc., ensuring alignment with the organization's mission and values. Supervise program staff, including mentoring coordinators and support personnel, to ensure effective delivery of the 12-step program. Develop and oversee the strategic direction, financial management, and operational effectiveness of the organization. Lead the design and implementation of the mentoring program to facilitate the successful reintegration of participants after	40,000
Other Salary and Benefits	Assist in the implementation of the 12-Step Reintegration Program, providing support to participants throughout their journey. Serve as a mentor and guide for program participants, helping them navigate challenges related to reintegration. Facilitate workshops and sessions aimed at rebuilding relationships between participants and their families.	30,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Connect participants to local resources, including housing, employment, and health services, provided by government and private organizations.	20,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Assist in preparing and leading workshops covering life skills, mental health, financial literacy, and job readiness.	15,000
Operational Costs		



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Salary and Benefits	This position requires a flexible and dynamic work environment typical of a nonprofit organization. Staff may work from an office, in the community, or remotely as needed. Occasional evening and weekend work may be required for workshops and community events. Maintain accurate documentation of participant progress and program activities; assist with data entry and reporting as needed.	25,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Connect participants to local resources, including housing, employment, and health services, provided by government and private organizations.	10,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Engage with local businesses, agencies, and community partners to support program initiatives and participant needs.	10,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		150,000

13. Program Performance

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

The Clean Start Initiative's 12-step program includes structured weekly sessions that blend mentoring, life skills training, and family engagement. The objective is to provide ongoing support for participants throughout their reintegration process.

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

Week Focus Area
1 Orientation
2 Self-Assessment
3 Life Skills Development
4 Health & Wellness
5 Family Dynamics
6 Community Resources
7 Personal Goal Setting
8 Coping Strategies
9 Networking Skills
10 Mock Interviews
11 Implementation of Goals
12 Program Evaluation & Celebration

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

1. Introduce participants to the program's structure, establish rapport, and set personalized goals.
2. Facilitate discussions around personal experiences, challenges, and strengths.
3. Workshops on budgeting, job searching, and effective communication.
4. Discussion on physical and mental health resources, including substance abuse recovery techniques.
5. Engage family members in discussions about reconnection and support.
6. Present local resources, including housing, education, and employment opportunities.
7. Assist participants in creating actionable personal and professional goals.
8. Workshops on managing stress, conflict resolution, and positive decision-making.
9. Teach effective networking skills and resume building.
10. Conduct mock interviews with local employers, providing feedback for improvement.
11. Guide participants to put their personal plans into action through community involvement.
12. Reflect on accomplishments, assess outcomes, and celebrate.

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



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Plan to serve: 1 - 800 participants per year in the below demographics

Racial Demographics Age Distribution Economic Status
African American 58% 18-25 22% Below Poverty Line 78%
White 35% 26-35 41% Working Class 15%
Hispanic 5% 36-45 25% Middle Class 5%
Other 2% 46+ 12% Other 2%

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

Goals and Objectives

1. Reduce Recidivism: Decrease the rates of re-incarceration by 15% among participants.
2. Family Reconnection: Assist 80% of participants in reconnecting with at least one family member through our resources.
3. Employment: Secure jobs for 70% of program graduates through workforce development coaching

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?

1. Higher instances of Recidivism.
2. Lower occurrences of Family Reconnection.
3. Less Employment.

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:

16. Has the entity applied for or received state assistance for this project (other than this request)?

- ☐ Yes, Applied



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- ☐ 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

d. Phone Number



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