



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1608

1. Project Title L.O.V.E. Our Youth - Youth Violence Reduction & Workforce Readiness Program

2. Senate Sponsor Kristen Arrington

3. Date of Request 11/21/2025

4. Project/Program Description

The specific purpose is to expand our Youth Violence Reduction & Workforce Readiness Program. Our facility is the only dedicated teen center serving East Orange County teens, directly addressing the documented need stemming from constantly growing crime rates. Funds will expand capacity for at-risk, economically disadvantaged youth to access a comprehensive workforce readiness program (e.g., career exploration, mock interviews) to foster economic self-sufficiency.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds Department of Juvenile Justice

State Agency contacted? No

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operating	200,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	200,000

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)	200,000	67%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	75,000	25%
Other	25,000	8%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	300,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? No

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? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year. 200,000

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

L.O.V.E. Our Youth maintains a diversified funding portfolio to ensure program continuity in the absence of state funding. Current sources include private foundation grants, corporate sponsorships, and local government support. We also leverages in-kind community partnerships to reduce program costs.



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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	Portion of the Executive Director time serving as the Project Head for the program, responsible for high-level fiscal management, contract compliance, and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders.	30,000
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Funds will support the personnel required to implement the program: Program Coordinator (program oversight, curriculum implementation, assessment administration); Youth Counselors/Facilitators (direct instruction, supervision, skill-building support); and Part-time instructional staff (specialty workshops, guest-led career sessions)	90,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funds will cover program operations essential to delivering evidence-based youth development experiences. Costs include: Curriculum materials and instructional supplies, Career and technical education tools for hands-on learning, Program technology (tablets, software subscriptions, assessment tools), Workshop supplies for financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and career simulations.	60,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Costs associated with contracting a licensed CPA firm to conduct an independent financial audit of the organization's use of state funds, and necessary bookkeeping to track and verify the expenditure of all state funds.	20,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		200,000

13. Program Performance

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

The goal is to increase access to structured, safe, and skill-building programs that prepare students for post-secondary education, employment, and life beyond high school graduation. Funding will support direct instruction, career exploration, financial literacy, and hands-on learning activities that strengthen critical life skills, improve academic engagement, and reduce youth involvement in high-risk behaviors.

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

The funds will be utilized for direct services to the youth offering career readiness training, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, life-skills instruction, academic enrichment, and supervised pro-social activities. Services include facilitator-led lessons, hands-on projects, career exploration sessions, and connection to resources that improve youth safety, skills, and future readiness.

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

Youth will receive direct in-person services, including career assessments, workforce readiness instruction, financial literacy training, mentoring, project-based learning, and structured activities that build communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Programs provide safe, supervised environments and individualized support to help youth plan for long term success.

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

The project serves jobless persons, economically disadvantaged youth, and at-risk middle and high school students ages 11–18. These students face limited access to structured enrichment, career training, and future-planning support. The program will provide direct services to approximately 100 youth annually, offering career readiness instruction, life-skills development, and safe, supervised activities designed to improve long-term education and workforce outcomes.

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

The project will improve education, economic self-sufficiency, and reduce juvenile justice involvement. Outcomes include 75% of youth increasing knowledge and identifying a career path while building decision-making and life skills. Progress will be measured through pre/post assessments, Positive Youth Development Index scores, pathway tools, and attendance and engagement tracking.

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?

We are fully committed to responsible stewardship and operational excellence and will follow all rules and regulations associated with administering the funding contract. To ensure transparency and rapid resolution of any issues, we propose that in the event of failing to meet a performance measure, the organization must submit a formal Corrective Action Plan (CAP) detailing the root cause and specific steps to return to compliance and/or our organization return funding to the state.

14. Is this project related to mitigation, response, or recovery from a natural disaster? ☐ No

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)



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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

- ☐ For Profit Entity
- ☒ Non Profit 501(c)(3)



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- ☐ 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.