



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1937

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

This project is designed to provide hands-on education in valuable technical skills – ultimately leading to an opportunity for gainful employment, while engaging students in the social aspect of building affordable housing and bettering their community one project at a time. The Youth Construction Academy (YCA) is a partnership with Eustis High, Leesburg High, South Lake High, Wildwood High, and Villages Charter High. Students will visit our home build sites scattered throughout Lake and Sumter counties 3-4 days a week as their class time throughout the school year, building a home from slab to CO. Collectively they will build 6 homes for qualified low-income families, providing homeownership opportunities to those that would otherwise not have access to purchase their own home. Families within the program participate in sweat equity and education during their time with Habitat.

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	0
Fixed Capital Outlay	180,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>180,000</b>

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)	180,000	11%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	130,000	7%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	122,500	7%
Other	1,327,500	75%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027</b>	<b>1,760,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

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.



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1937

## 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?

08/01/2026

#### d. What is the estimated completion date of construction?

06/30/2027

#### e. What funding stream will be used for ongoing operations and maintenance of the project?

This is a homeownership project, so the units will be sold to qualified buyers. After closing the residents who purchase homes with an affordable mortgage will be responsible for maintenance. Habitat will use internal cash from ReStore sales and commercial rentals, private funds through grants and sponsorships, as well as a line of credit as needed to cash flow the project from start to finish.

### 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.

Homes and lots will be owned by qualified low-income home buyers throughout Lake and Sumter County. Habitat will be the developer/builder, managing all aspects of construction as well as providing educational oversight and instruction for the students.

### 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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering	Construction of 6 new housing units for low-income families scattered throughout Lake and Sumter, providing homeownership opportunities. These projects offer class curriculum for 75-100 students to gain construction skills during the building process.	180,000
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>180,000</b>

### 13. Program Performance

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



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1937

This project will increase affordable housing and workforce training through an education collaborative with Eustis High, Leesburg High, South Lake High, Wildwood Middle High, and Villages Charter. Students will build 6 homes, with state funds invested in hard cost of construction. Following our “sweat equity” model, home buyers will be fully engaged in their build through volunteerism as well as education. Each home will be sold to local low-income resident with an affordable mortgage, providing them a homeownership opportunity. At minimum 75 students will gain technical skills during the build year, finishing the year with industry certifications and valuable experience to enter the workforce.

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

Habitat will be the developer/builder, managing construction and educational oversight. Students will build homes, gaining experience from slab to CO, while producing an output of affordable housing. Home buyers will be income qualified and perform sweat equity, including educational courses such as budgeting, understanding credit, home maintenance, and estate planning. Students will gain technical and soft skills, ready to enter workforce.

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

Availability of 6 affordable housing units for qualified low-income home buyers to purchase. In addition, students will gain construction skills while building homes. Projects are located on infill lots or within pocket neighborhoods that are being developed within existing neighborhoods. These new units will uplift the existing neighborhood, eliminate current dumping/blight on vacant lots.

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

Residents of Lake or Sumter County who have a household income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. We anticipate these homes to serve approximately 20 individuals in the first generation of each home. In addition, 75-100 high school students will be served through the educational element across all five schools.

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

- 1) New Homebuyers: Studies show, positive outcomes of homeownership include increased graduation rates, better childhood health, and ability to build wealth. Decrease in children's behavioral problems and the need for government assistance. <https://www.habitatbuilds.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Benefits-of-Homeownership-Research-Summary.pdf>
- 2) Students: We expect increased skills based knowledge and will monitor this through pre and post surveys. We also anticipate deeper engagement in the curriculum and the ability to graduate ready to enter the workforce. We will request the ability to do a follow up with each student within the first 5 years of graduation to find out what they ended up doing post graduation.
- 3) Economy: For every \$1 invested by Habitat, we inject \$1.52 into the economy. This is measured using IMPLAN, an economic impact analysis software. This is just based on our operational impact and does NOT include the impact of our home buyers tax payments/spending.

**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?**

Should we not be able to deliver on what has been laid out in this application we will refund the investment back 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):**



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1937

**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**

<b>a. First Name</b>	<input type="text" value="Danielle"/>	<b>Last Name</b>	<input type="text" value="Stroud"/>
<b>b. Organization</b>	<input type="text" value="Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter"/>		
<b>c. E-mail Address</b>	<input type="text" value="danielle@habitatls.org"/>		
<b>d. Phone Number</b>	<input type="text" value="(352)630-3318"/>	<b>Ext.</b>	<input type="text"/>

**18. Recipient Contact Information**

<b>a. Organization</b>	<input type="text" value="Habitat for Humanity of Lake-Sumter"/>
<b>b. Municipality and County</b>	<input type="text" value="Lake, Sumter"/>
<b>c. Organization Type</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> For Profit Entity	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non Profit 501(c)(3)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non Profit 501(c)(4)	



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 1937

☐ 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.*