



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 2081

1. Project Title

2. Senate Sponsor

3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

The WOW Center is a nonprofit adult day training center in Miami, providing education, life skills, and vocational training for adults with developmental disabilities aged 21 and older. With a focus on independence and workforce readiness, the center serves over 200 individuals, helping them build skills for meaningful employment and community engagement. Additionally, our Wellness program supports aging and low-mobility individuals with tailored activities that promote engagement and enhance their quality of life.

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	875,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	875,000

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)	875,000	60%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	585,000	40%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027	1,460,000	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		
2025-26	0	1,000,000	241A	No

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.

As we prepare to open our new building and expand services, we rely on state support to bridge the gap during this growth period. This funding allows us to maintain staffing and core program operations while we secure long-term support through major gifts, corporate and foundation grants, individual donors, and community fundraising events.



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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	Program Management (Admissions & Education, Programs & Services, Operations Support)	40,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Administrative Software, utilities, communications systems, insurance, admin supplies.	12,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits	Community Based Education, Life & Community Skills, Social Services, WOW Workforce Program	775,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Software, equipment lease, auto insurance	22,500
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Accounting	25,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		875,000

13. Program Performance

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

The funds will ensure adults with developmental disabilities receive the support, training, and services needed to build independence, strengthen life and work skills, and participate more fully in their community. This investment promotes stability, opportunity, and long-term quality of life.

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



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The funds will support instructional, workforce, and community-based activities that help adults with developmental disabilities build daily living skills, strengthen communication, develop job readiness, and engage safely in their community. Services include guided learning, coaching, practice opportunities, and individualized support.

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

The requested funding will support direct services, including daily educational programs, pre-employment training, and hands-on learning experiences for adults with developmental disabilities. These comprehensive services will focus on enhancing life skills, job readiness, and community integration, ensuring that each individual has the tools needed to thrive. Through personalized instruction, individuals will develop greater independence, confidence, and the ability to navigate real-world situations. By fostering long-term success, these programs will empower individuals to achieve their fullest potential, whether through meaningful employment, volunteer opportunities, or greater self-sufficiency in their daily lives.

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

The program will serve approximately 200 adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities, ranging in age from 21 and older. These individuals often face significant barriers to employment, and this initiative will provide the necessary education and training to bridge that gap.

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

This project aims to enhance independence and community integration for adults with developmental disabilities through structured training and hands-on learning. Success will be measured using personal outcome assessments, functional evaluations, and community participation tracking. Regular feedback from individuals, families, and employers will provide insight into program effectiveness. These measures will ensure individuals gain essential skills for meaningful employment and improved quality of life.

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?

Nothing beyond standard penalties.

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)

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#:



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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

e. E-mail Address

f. Phone Number Ext.

19. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name



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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.