



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2026-2027

LFIR # 2136

1. **Project Title**

2. **Senate Sponsor**

3. **Date of Request**

4. Project/Program Description

This pilot program will enhance emergency response for students in a Emotional/Behavioral Disability (E/BD) program who are experiencing psychiatric crises by ensuring appropriate medical transport. Minor students under the Baker Act who pose no security risk would be transported from designated Broward County Public Schools by Basic Life Support ambulance instead of a police vehicle. This approach aligns the response with medical needs, reduces unnecessary law enforcement involvement, and allows officers to remain available for public safety duties.

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	300,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	300,000

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)	300,000	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	300,000	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.**

Blended funding from Broward County School Board (BCSB), Broward Behavioral Health Coalition(BBHC) and community providers such as the Children Services Council (CSC)



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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		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Funding would support basic life support ambulance transportation for eligible Broward County Public School students requiring emergency psychiatric care under the Baker Act.	300,000
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		300,000

13. Program Performance

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

This program will, among other benefits:

1. Reduce the trauma of youth being transported to a hospital during a psychiatric emergency;
2. Increase the cooperation and understanding of the youth being transported, thereby reducing the risk of escalation or resistance to needed medical care; and
3. Increase police officer availability for public safety.



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

The use of BLS ambulances instead of traumatic law enforcement transportation. The BLS ambulances also include a trained crisis response team and may provide medical care.

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

Continuity of care for minors via: 1) less traumatic transportation, 2) behavioral health services, supports and outreach and 3) behavioral health prevention services and information and referral services.

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

Minor children enrolled in designated Broward County Public School with Emotional/Behavioral Disability (E/BD) programs. This pilot program is expected to serve up to [X] kids, which could increase to over [X] (over 400 in Hillsborough's program) if implemented County-wide.

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

It would reduce the trauma of children during a psychiatric emergency, improving their cooperation and decreasing escalation, which also decreases the likelihood of future involvement with the Juvenile Justice and criminal justice systems. This can be measured by analyzing juvenile justice rates for youth that were transported during a Baker Act. Currently, youth in this program who are experiencing a psychiatric crisis necessitating their transportation to a hospital are relegated to being transported in a police car exacerbating their trauma.

It would also reduce the burden of police officers having to provide this transport, so the officers can prioritize their duties to ensuring public safety. This could be measured through the decrease in hours for police officers in having to provide these transportations.

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?

Penalties would be reduction of funding for the specific utilization of this service.

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



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a. Name	<input type="text" value="Ronald L. Book"/>
b. Firm Name	<input type="text" value="Ronald L. Book PA"/>
c. E-mail Address	<input type="text" value="ron@rlbookpa.com"/>
d. Phone Number	<input type="text" value="(305)935-1866"/>

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