



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1018

1. Project Title
2. Senate Sponsor
3. Date of Request

4. Project/Program Description

Operation G.R.O.W. is a program which provides real-world work experiences and job readiness education to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities with the goal of obtaining competitive, integrated employment. Operation G.R.O.W.'s Employment Coaches provide continuing education, career and travel training through supported employment and customized employment opportunities. Operation G.R.O.W.'s goal is to build upon and enhance the vocational skills of the participants. The program accomplishes this through relationships with community partners, classroom instruction, and partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation. Employment in the community will enable individuals to become more financially independent, rely less on government benefits, and contribute to their community. Inspire of Central Florida seeks to continue to provide Operation G.R.O.W. services to meet the needs of adults with differing abilities in Central Florida.

5. State Agency to receive requested funds
- State Agency contacted?

6. Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	496,688
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	496,688

7. Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (including matching funds available for this project)

Type of Funding	Amount	Percentage
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	496,688	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 2024-2025	496,688	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding?

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	495,046	240A	No

9. Is future 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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10. Has the entity requesting this project received any federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic?



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If yes, indicate the amount of funds received and what the funds were used for.

Complete questions 11 and 12 for Fixed Capital Outlay Projects

11. 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?

12. 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.

13. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	30% Executive Director's salary	35,252
Other Salary and Benefits	30% of Operations Manager, Bookkeeper, and Administrative Assistant's salaries	37,172
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Workman's Comp fees and Administrative Costs	45,114
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Salaries of Program Coordinator and four Employment Coaches	203,152
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Upgraded including software, transportation and from job sites, and staff training, 30% of facility insurance, utilities, program supplies, maintenance and equipment leases. Also, establish inventory and equipment for two locations of Inspire Your Day Cafe.	155,101
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Dance, health and wellness, and art programs for participants. Behavioral analysts, medical and financial professionals as required.	20,897
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		496,688

14. Program Performance

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



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Operation G.R.O.W. provides classroom instruction, as well as internship opportunities that aid participants in building or strengthening job readiness skills necessary to secure competitive, integrated employment. Through a partnership with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), Inspire is able to facilitate supported employment, job coaching and on-the-job training.

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

Participants will engage in continued education, travel and career training with the objective to increase their vocational skills and employability as individuals seeking competitive, integrated employment in the community. Through community partnerships, local government entities, and businesses, interns will have practice skills taught through classroom instruction.

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

The program participants will be able to obtain practical employment skills through internships with our community partners. Through Operation G.R.O.W., participants can develop a variety of job readiness skills which will assist them in their future competitive, integrated employment. These skills are enhanced through continued education, travel and career trainings.

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

The target population is adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). We expect to enroll a minimum of twenty-five participants in Operation G.R.O.W. throughout the fiscal year. More than 85% of our program participants are Seminole County residents. Currently, there are approximately 900 individuals with IDD residing in Seminole County and over 3,000 in Orange County.

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

This program aims to improve mental and physical health, increase knowledge of transportation use and awareness, enhance participant's economic self-sufficiency, create job opportunities, improve socialization and educational opportunities. Participants' engagement and comprehension of the subjects taught will be measured through regular and recurring assessments, securing employment and through on-going documentation.

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 the contract?

The increments of financial consequences that shall apply must be based upon the severity of the noncompliance, nonperformance, or unacceptable performance. The financial consequences shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total project payments. Noncompliance involving the provision of service not having a direct effect on client health and safety may result in the imposition of a five percent (5%) financial consequence. Noncompliance as a result of unacceptable performance of administrative tasks may result in the imposition of a two percent (2%) financial consequence.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**

b. Organization

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number **Ext.**

16. Recipient Contact Information

a. Organization

b. Municipality and County

c. Organization Type



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- 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

17. Lobbyist Contact Information

a. Name

b. Firm Name

c. E-mail Address

d. Phone Number