



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1326

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

4. Project/Program Description

Halifax Urban Ministries operates a program in Volusia County that assists people remain in their homes and avoid the prospect of becoming homeless. It is much more costly to transition a family from homelessness to housing stability than it is to maintain a family in its current housing situation. By assisting people through a difficult financial time with utility assistance, rental assistance, past due rents, etc., families are able to remain housing stable in their homes. Halifax Urban Ministries in 2023 maintained 3 prevention grants totaling \$172,843. In April with only \$84,496 remaining, 146 people had received assistance and did not become homeless. However, the program lacks sufficient funds to meet demand. During a typical week, the agency received 117 calls for assistance of which 20 were deemed ineligible. Only 14 people could be served based on the weekly allocation of grant funds available. In other words, only 1.4% of the need could be filled due to budgetary constraints.

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	500,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	500,000

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)	500,000	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 2024-2025	500,000	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?**

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		

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.

Federal funding will be sought through HUD. However, prevention is currently not a priority for HUD.



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1326

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

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

Funds were used for food provision during COVID-19 and prevention activities such as rental and utility assistance.

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		0
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Direct services to families to prevent them from becoming homeless through existing contract staff.	500,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		500,000

14. Program Performance

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



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Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1326

The purpose of the project is to prevent families from becoming homeless. Support will be provided for a maximum for 6 months to ensure that the family remains stable. The funds will supplement grant funds provided through ESG and Challenge. The same criteria for service will be used.

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

Prevention activities include but are not limited to assisting families facing difficult financial situations and facing potential homelessness paying for past due rents, current month's rent, utility deposits, past due utilities. Additionally families will be offered support services such as job searches, educational opportunities, and financial education to ensure continued success in housing and family stability.

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

Direct services provide include but are not limited to paying past due rents, current month's rent, utility deposits, past due utility bills, currently due utility bills, etc. Other direct services offered include job placement assistance, educational opportunities, financial education and budgeting.

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

The target population are citizens of Volusia County who are in danger of becoming homeless. 75% of the people in Volusia County have less than 4 months savings to help them weather financial difficulties such as a job loss or a catastrophic illness. It should be expected that this funding can provide assistance to over 500 people in need. The eligibility criteria will be 30-50% of the area median income(AMI). The current AMI for Volusia County for a family of four is \$78,100.

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

The obvious benefit of this program is to prevent families/people from becoming homeless. It is more efficient to help someone remain in their current living situation than for them to climb up and out of the vastness that occurs when a family or person becomes homeless. The outcome will be measured by the number of people served and the number of these people remaining housing stable after 6 months.

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?

Standard penalties will apply.

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

- For Profit Entity
- Non Profit 501(c)(3)
- Non Profit 501(c)(4)



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Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1326

- 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