



# The Florida Senate

## Local Funding Initiative Request

### Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1454

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

**4. Project/Program Description**

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline (FVLH) staff will provide direct legal assistance to low-income veterans to reduce civil law barriers that threaten the individual's employability, their individual or family financial stability and independence, their ability to gain and sustain employment, or their ability to build and sustain individual/family assets. FVLH attorneys will provide direct advice and assistance to low-income veterans over the phone, schedule appointments for extended services with full-time attorneys who focus solely on veterans, and coordinate referrals to partners throughout the State of Florida. This FVLH will provide access to services for a population that would otherwise not have access to legal advice and representation.

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	1,000,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
<b>Total State Funds Requested</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>

**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)	1,000,000	87%
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	0	0%
Other	145,453	13%
<b>Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025</b>	<b>1,145,453</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	750,000	593A	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.**

If state funds are not available, some combination of LSC, local, and donations would be used but most of this funding has income restrictions which could impact client eligibility.

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



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Yes

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

- PPP Loan - \$1,624,200.00 - Personnel Costs and Rent in 2020
- LSC Telework - \$17,753.77 - Laptops and accessories, phone power cords (Remote Work) (2020)
- LSC COVID-19 - \$245,145 awarded (2020-2022)
- Senior Connection Center - \$160,964 - Title III CARES Act funding - client services Hillsborough (2020-2021)

(see attachment for additional assistance received)

## 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
<b>Administrative Costs:</b>		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Team Leader	91,679
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
<b>Operational Costs: Other</b>		
Salary and Benefits	6.5 full-time attorneys, 2 full-time administrative support, 1 part-time screener	548,321
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	1.5 attorney/paralegal* full-time equivalent, subcontract - Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) 1.5 attorney/paralegal* full-time equivalent, subcontract - Legal Services of North Florida (LSNF) 1.5 attorney/paralegal* full-time equivalent, subcontract - Legal Aid in South Florida (TBD) *At least 1.0 of the 1.5 full-time equivalent will be filled by an attorney	360,000
<b>Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:</b>		



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Construction/Renovation/Land/ Planning Engineering		0
<b>Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>

**14. Program Performance**

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

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline (FVLH) staff will provide direct legal assistance to low-income veterans to reduce civil law barriers that threaten the individual’s employability, their individual or family financial stability and independence, their ability to gain and sustain employment, or their ability to build and sustain individual/family assets. This FVLH will provide access to services for a population that would otherwise not have access to legal advice and representation.

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

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline (FVLH) attorneys will provide direct advice and assistance to low-income veterans over the phone, schedule appointments for extended services with full-time attorneys who focus solely on veterans, and coordinate referrals to partners throughout the State of Florida. This FVLH will provide access to services for a population that would otherwise not have access to legal advice and representation.

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

The Florida Veterans Legal Helpline (FVLH) attorneys will provide direct advice and assistance to low-income veterans over the phone, schedule appointments for extended services with full-time attorneys who focus solely on veterans, and coordinate referrals to partners throughout the State of Florida.

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

Low-income veterans and their family members throughout the State of Florida.

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

Access to legal advice and assistance at no cost to eligible veterans to reduce civil law barriers that threaten the individual’s employability, their individual or family financial stability and independence, their ability to gain and sustain employment, or their ability to build and sustain individual/family assets. Case management software will track the number of clients served, level of service, outcomes and more.

**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?**

No reimbursement if a failure to deliver.

**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**