



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 1914

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

4. Project/Program Description

Exchange Parent Aide provides in-home parent education to families referred by DCF investigators, CBC case management programs, the school system, a variety of social services agencies, probation officers in misdemeanor child abuse and neglect cases and self-referral. Part of a national network of Exchange Club agencies, Parent Aide is provided without cost to any family in need of services and seeks to significantly reduce the number of children placed in out-of-home care by helping parents improve their parenting skills. The average cost of providing 6-12 months of in-home services to a family equates to approximately \$1,500 per child per year, while DCF estimates cost per child for one year of foster care is \$105,131. Parent Aide is provided to any family with a child age 18 or younger in the home, meeting weekly for a period of 3 months and bi-weekly for an additional 3-9 months, the only program in NE Florida which has provided this level of intensive services since 1992.

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

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

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	796,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	796,000

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)	796,000	84%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	0	0%
Local	150,000	16%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	946,000	100%

8. Has this project previously received state funding? Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	Nonrecurring		
2023-24	0	796,000	315	No

9. Is future funding likely to be requested? Yes

a. If yes, indicate nonrecurring amount per year.

b. Describe the source of funding that can be used in lieu of state funding.

We diligently seek any funding opportunity available including, but not limited to, City of Jacksonville, foundation grants, special events, federal grant opportunities, donations. We will continue to seek every funding opportunity available.



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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.

We were able to secure CARES and PPP funding which covered 55% of our program expenses during 2021, after our 2020-2021 state funding was vetoed due to COVID. The balance was covered with donations and reserves.

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	Executive Director @.40 to serve as Project Director and promote program across the counties served (\$33,600) plus FICA/SS/taxes @ .0765 (\$2,570)	36,170
Other Salary and Benefits	Part-time Accountant @ \$35.00/hr x 15 hr/week and FICA/ss/taxes @ .0765 (\$2,100).	29,400
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Parent Aide Program Director (\$65,000), 2 Sr. Parent Aides/Supv. (\$96,000), 7 Parent Aides (\$308,000), a Program Assistant (\$44,000), plus \$350/mo Health Reimbursement Account and performance bonuses (\$62,000) and .0765 FICA/SS/taxes (\$39,245).	614,245
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Mileage @.445/mile for Parent Aide staff (\$46,000), Technology (\$9,000), Training/conferences (\$9,000), Occupancy (\$28,000), Program Materials and Curriculum supplies (\$9,500), Printing (\$1,000) and Emergency Flex Funds for PA families (\$13,685).	116,185
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0



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Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)	796,000
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14. Program Performance

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

Parent Aide will provide services to 225 families (approximately 550 children). Each family will receive 6-12 months of in-home services, achieve 2 of 3 goals established at beginning of program, and show an improved score for parenting skills and Protective Factors based on Assessment tools. At least 97% of all graduates will have no confirmed report of abuse/neglect within 12 months of graduation. Children will remain safely in their homes and the risk of a child being removed from the home/placed in Foster Care will be greatly reduced or eliminated. Any family with a child under the age of 18 is eligible for services.

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

Using an evidence-based curriculum, 6-12 months of weekly/bi-weekly 60-minute sessions will be provided in the family's home. All parents who participate and graduate will learn the skills necessary to provide their children with a healthy, nurturing home environment free from hazardous conditions, neglect or abuse. A minimum of 225 families will complete the program at an estimated cost of \$1,500 per child annually, as opposed to DCF's estimated \$105,188 per child annually for foster care. We will help keep families together and children out of foster care.

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

We will provide a minimum of 6-12 months of Parent Aide in-home prevention services to approximately 225 families/550 children in Duval, Clay, Baker and Nassau counties, referred to the program by DCF Investigators, CBC contract providers case management programs, law enforcement, public schools, an array of community agencies and self-referral. Services entail weekly 60-90 minute visits for the first three months and bi-weekly for an additional 3-9 months thereafter. Using the Nurturing Parenting Program curriculum, parents will complete a minimum of 18 hours of curriculum, set individual and family goals, complete pre and post assessments and must complete the entirety of the course for graduation. Graduates are checked by DCF monthly and 97% have no further incident of confirmed abuse or neglect within 12 months of graduation, an outcome which exceeds all DCF standard outcome requirements for such programs.

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

Our target population is any parent in Duval, Clay, Nassau or Baker county who is in need of assistance with parenting concerns. Parents may self-refer, however, referrals will be accepted from DCF Investigators, other social services agencies or programs within the community and Dept. of Corrections. Any family identified as 'at-risk for abuse or neglect' and is deemed a low-to-moderate risk may be referred to this evidence-based in-home prevention services program.

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

(1) 97% or more of all program graduates will have no further confirmed report of abuse or neglect within 12 months of graduation from Parent Aide. DCF contract management monitors this information monthly. (2) 90% or more of all enrollees will successfully graduate the program with a minimum of six months or more of in-home services. This information will be reported monthly to DCF and is monitored on a cloud-based case management system, E-PASS, to which the DCF contract manager will have read-only access for oversight. Children will receive 6-12 months of services for less than \$1,500 per child annually. Parent Aide is an evidence-based, research driven program used with fidelity by the Exchange Club Family Center of Jacksonville. We are the only evidence-based prevention services program in NE Florida serving children of all ages.

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 DCF contract is renewed annually and always includes specific penalties for failure to meet deliverables or performance measures in the contract. This has never happened and no penalties have been levied.

15. Requester Contact Information

a. First Name **Last Name**



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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)
- 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