

**The Florida House of Representatives**  
**Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2022-23**  
For projects meeting the definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: Preserving Families and Achieving Permanency for Pasco & Pinellas Children
2. Date of Submission: 01/07/2022
3. House Member Sponsor: Chris Latvala

**4. Details of Amount Requested:**

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded?
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed?
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request.

| FY:                | Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project<br>for FY 2021-22<br><small>(If appropriated in 2021-22 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)</small> |                               |                          | Develop New Funds Request<br>for FY 2022-23<br><small>(Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)</small> |  |   |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|---|
| Column:            | A   | B                             | C                        | D   | E                                      | F   |
| Funds Description: | Prior Year Recurring Funds  | Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds | Total Funds Appropriated | Recurring Base Budget   | <b>Additional Nonrecurring Request</b> | <b>TOTAL Nonrecurring plus Recurring Base Funds</b> |
| Input Amounts:     |   |                               |                          |   | 12,000,000                             | 12,000,000  |

e. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2022-23 from all sources of funding (Enter "0" if amount is zero):

| Type of Funding   | Amount     | Percent of Total | Are the other sources of funds guaranteed in writing? |
|---|------------|------------------|---|
| 1. Amount Requested from the State in this Appropriations Project Request | 12,000,000 | 100.0%           | N/A   |
| 2. Federal  | 0          | 0.0%             | No  |
| 3. State (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column F)          | 0          | 0.0%             | No  |
| 4. Local  | 0          | 0.0%             | No  |

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|              |                   |             |    |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|----|
| 5. Other     | 0                 | 0.0%        | No |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>12,000,000</b> | <b>100%</b> |    |

5. Is this a multi-year project requiring funding from the state for more than one year?

No

6. Which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue requested? Department of Children and Families

a. Has the appropriate state agency for administering the funding, if the request were appropriated, been contacted? Yes

b. Describe penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures which the agency should provide in its contract to administer the funding if appropriated.

Return of Funds

7. Requester:

a. Name: Jenn Petion

b. Organization: Family Support Services of Suncoast

c. Email: Jenn.Petion@fssnf.org

d. Phone #: (904)314-4193

8. Contact for questions about specific technical or financial details about the project.

a. Name: Marti Smith

b. Organization: Family Support Services of Suncoast

c. Email: Marti.Smith@fssnf.org

d. Phone #: (904)318-7231

9. Registered lobbyist working to secure funding for this project.

a. Name: Georgia McKeown

b. Firm: GA McKeown & Associates LLC

c. Email: ramgam95@gmail.com

d. Phone #: (904)303-1611

10. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

a. Name: Family Support Services of Suncoast

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b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Pinellas

c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Pasco, Pinellas

11. What type of organization is the entity that will receive the funds?

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government
- University or College
- Other (Please describe)

12. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds being requested?

These funds will be utilized for Pasco and Pinellas counties to initiate the model of Family Preservation/Diversion services that Family Support Services of North Florida (FSSNF) has developed and to exit children currently in the overburdened child welfare system in this community. FSSNF has previously been successful in implementing this model and reducing the number of children in care by >50% in Duval/Nassau. This funding will also be used to stabilize frontline personnel.

13. Provide specific details on how funds will be spent. (Select all that apply)

| Spending Category   | Description | Amount Requested<br>(Should equal 4d, Col. E)<br>Enter "0" if request is zero for the<br>category |
|---|-------------|---|
| Administrative Costs:   |             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits |             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Other Salary and Benefits                           |             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other             |             |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study               |             |   |
| Operational Costs:  |             |   |

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|   |  |                   |
|---|--|-------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits                  | Stabilize frontline case management workforce needed to create a stable front-end system and exit children to permanency.  | 2,000,000         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other          |  |                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study  | Cost for program start-up and implementation of the proven model of family preservation while simultaneously focusing on exiting children already in the system. | 10,000,000        |
| Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:                                  |  |                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering |  |                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |  | <b>12,000,000</b> |

14. For Fixed Capital Costs requested in Question 13, what type of ownership will the facility be under when complete?

- For Profit
- Non Profit 501(c) (3)
- Non Profit 501(c) (4)
- Local Government (e.g., police, fire or local government buildings, local roads, etc.)
- State agency owned facility (For example: college or university facility, buildings for public schools, roads in the state transportation system, etc.)
- Other (Please describe)

15. Is the project request an information technology project?

No

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16. Is there any documented show of support for the requested project in the community including public hearings, letters of support, major organizational backing, or other expressions of support?

Yes

a. Please Describe:

Family Support Services was sought to become the lead agency in Circuit 6 through an emergency procurement with support of a broad range of community partners, community leaders, elected officials and other agencies comprising the system of care. FSS was sought out due to the proven model of family preservation and timely permanency that reduced out-of-home care by >50% in Duval/Nassau.

17. Has the need for the funds been documented by a study, completed by an independent 3rd party, for the area to be served?

No

18. Will the requested funds be used directly for services to citizens?

Yes

a. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the purpose of the funds?

The services being implemented will target both the safe and unsafe families in Pasco and Pinellas counties. Though much of the formal services focus on families involved with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), this services array will also aim to support community families that are not involved with DCF.

b. Describe the direct services to be provided to the citizens by the funding requested.

FSS of Suncoast will be implementing the STEPS and FAST programs in Pasco and Pinellas. These services utilize evidence based parenting, budgeting, behavior modification, and case management. FSS will also be working to exit youth who have languished in foster care by reunification, adoption or other permanency options.

c. Describe the target population to be served (i.e., "the majority of the funds requested will serve these target populations or groups"). Select all that apply to the target population:

Elderly persons

Persons with poor mental health

Persons with poor physical health

Jobless persons

Economically disadvantaged persons

At-risk youth

Homeless

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- Developmentally disabled
- Physically disabled
- Drug users (in health services)
- Preschool students
- Grade school students
- High school students
- University/college students
- Currently or formerly incarcerated persons
- Drug offenders (in criminal Justice)
- Victims of crime
- General (The majority of the funds will benefit no specific group)
- Other (Please describe)

d. How many in the target population are expected to be served?

- < 25
- 25-50
- 51-100
- 101-200
- 201-400
- 401-800
- >800

19. What benefits or outcomes will be realized by the expenditure of funds requested? (Select each Benefit/Outcome that applies)

| Benefit or Outcome  | Provide a specific measure of the benefit or outcome   | Describe the method for measuring level of benefit or outcome  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health          |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health | FSS' Family Preservation model works to improve mental health for parents with an identified need that impacts or puts at risk | FSS assesses parental protective capacities and utilizes additional instruments and assessments to gauge progress toward defined |

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|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | the safety of their children.  | goals.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enrich cultural experience   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve agricultural production/promotion/education                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve quality of education   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enhance/preserve/improve environmental or fish and wildlife quality  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protect the general public from harm (environmental, criminal, etc.) |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve transportation conditions                                    |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase or improve economic activity                                |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase tourism   |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities                          |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency   | FSS' Family Preservation model works to improve economic self sufficiency for parents with an identified need that impacts or puts at risk the safety of their children. FSS also connects families with community resources and concrete supports to address immediate needs. | FSS assesses parental protective capacities and utilizes additional instruments and assessments to gauge progress. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism   | FSS' Family Preservation model has lasting outcomes and low rates of re-abuse.   | FSS assesses parental protective capacities and utilizes additional instruments and assessments to                 |

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|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  |   | gauge progress.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse                       | FSS' Family Preservation model works to reduce substance abuse for parents with an identified need that impacts or puts at risk the safety of their children.   | FSS assesses parental protective capacities and utilizes additional instruments and assessments to gauge progress. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system | FSS' Family Preservation model works with youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system to prevent them from being lockouts who enter the child welfare system. | FSS assesses parental protective capacities and utilizes additional instruments and assessments to gauge progress. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve wastewater management                           |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve stormwater management                           |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve groundwater quality                             |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve drinking water quality                          |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve surface water quality                           |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please describe):                                |   |  |