



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

LFIR # 3609

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

4. Project/Program Description

The purpose of this project is to educate impoverished families in much needed topics related to parenting. In addition, the project aims to provide prevention and intervention strategies leading to healthy and productive lifestyles. Project will be conducted at all of our facilities located in East Little Havana and Hialeah. This is a one-year project that will provide weekly intervention services to those enrolled in the program. Intervention services will be conducted in person and/or virtually as needed. Services will be provided by licensed clinicians and Case Management staff. Services also include free childcare to families participating in the project. Mental Health is a current concern in our community, particularly amongst minority low-income families. Centro Mater is strongly committed to enhancing the lives of the families we serve and through the implementation of this project, we will be a step closer in attaining our vision.

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	150,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	0
Total State Funds Requested	150,000

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)	150,000	87%
Matching Funds		
Federal	0	0%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	7,500	4%
Local	15,000	9%
Other	0	0%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2024-2025	172,500	100%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** No

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

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.

As this is a new initiative, we do not have a source of funding to support this initiative in lieu of state funding but if awarded the funds for this year, the Centro Mater will seek grant funding to continue the project in the future if the State does not award nonrecurring funds.



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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.

Centro Mater Child Care Services Inc received federal assistance related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see below:
 * American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
 * Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security (CARES) Act

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	Program Administrator for Centro Mater - the project lead responsible for oversight of the project. To ensure efficacy, monthly meetings will be conducted with the Consulting firm and the Family Services Manager. Meetings are to review data collected and use data to drive programming, establish and ensure execution of educational sessions, and ensure needs of the families in the program are met.	24,096
Other Salary and Benefits		0
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		0
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		0
Operational Costs: Other		
Salary and Benefits	Family Services Manager - ensures a Family Assessment Questionnaire is completed twice each program year with all families. The questionnaire identifies family strengths, needs and interests. With the data collected, a Family Partnership Agreement is completed with each family to establish goals and address identified needs. The Family Services Manager will verify all families receive information and referrals to resources. Monthly follow-up is conducted.	70,314
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Any materials to be distributed to the families in the program as well as any supplies needed to ensure the execution of the project, maintenance of data and completion of reports.	7,590



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Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Consulting firm to design and implement project goals. Includes providing educational opportunities and in person and/or virtual access to families bi-monthly. The consulting firm practices are responsive to the identified behavioral and mental health concerns of the individualized family. The Consulting firm will complete effective and timely identification of needs regarding the mental health and wellness of families.	48,000
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		0
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		150,000

14. Program Performance

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

The purpose of this project is to provide educational and parenting prevention opportunities as well as intervention services to families in need. The goal of this project is designed to provide information, resources and services that will help empower individuals and families with new knowledge, beliefs and strategies to make good and healthy lifestyle choices. Project goals also include prevention-intervention programs which will be individualized for at risk families experiencing mild to moderate levels of distress. Any families needing long-term programs will be referred to by Social Services/Mental Health Professionals. Included in the project goals is to provide a specific component targeting fathers. This component with a focus to increase their knowledge and skills associated with their role. Lastly, in order to ensure families receive support and are able to take advantage of all available opportunities, Centro Mater will provide free childcare to all participating families.

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

Primary Activities: Short Term-Once a week sessions lasting 1 hour each for 12 weeks where the following topics will be covered: Prenatal Families, Proper nutrition and dangers of smoking, drinking and the use of legal and illegal substances while pregnant, ABC for parents, Parents & children with Special Needs & Health Challenges, Life altering disorders, Self-worth, Brain Development, Positive Discipline, Building empathy, anger management .
 Secondary Activities: These will be implemented only with at risk families presenting family dysfunction altering their home, work and school environment-intervention will be weekly for a period up to 20 sessions. The following sessions will be covered: Nurturing skills: These topics will be tailored-to Latino individuals concentrating on core competencies covering all the aspects of parenting in their home language. The subjects Alcohol, Anger and Abuse prevention will be integrated into the sessions.
NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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

All families participating in this project will complete intake before entering the program and once enrolled, Social Services staff will ensure that all families complete a Family Assessment Questionnaire twice within the program year. With the data collected and in conjunction with families, the Social Service staff establishes a Family Partnership which identifies family goals as well as needs which are addressed with information, referrals and interventions services. Staff will provide ongoing monthly follow-up to support attainment of goals and address identified needs, as well as to assess the overall health and wellness of the family dynamics. Licensed professionals will provide special educational opportunities as well as small group sessions covering topics as previously noted. Services also include weekly psychosocial groups, available in person and virtually. In addition, Centro Mater will offer free childcare while family members are receiving services.

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



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We serve more than 1,600 children annually and the project target population are all the families in our communities, but specifically any community members requesting assistance, observer-reported, or identified by social services and/or agency staff. Each family unit varies in the number of members thus difficult to determine the number of individuals expected to be served, but at a minimum, are available to all those enrolled in our program. Mental Health ranks as the top community concern in Miami-Dade according to a 2020 study sponsored by the University of Miami. Below are other factors contributing to wellness of families:

- *95% of the Hispanic families have incomes below the federal poverty guidelines, with 65% receiving welfare and TANF
- *78% of families are led by a single head of household being a female or male guardian
- *15% of the children have a diagnosed disability and/or developmental delays
- * 49% of households are exposed to alcohol incidents as reported by our fami

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

The expected outcome of this project is that families will attain knowledge on Mental Health Illnesses and Wellness as well as Family Planning. Centro Mater will use several methods to measure the outcomes for this project. Families attending the educational opportunities will receive a pre and post assessments to measure the knowledge gained. Established Family Partnerships, not only will address goals and needs, but strategies to achieve improved family relationships, healthy family dynamics and stability. The Social Services team will collect and utilize it to determine the number of families: with identified needs, provided resources, receiving services, and attaining set goals in order to measure project benefits and ensure attainment of determined outcome. Data will also be used to ensure efficacy of this project and families are receiving the services needed to attain positive outcomes as intended by this project.

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?

Centro Mater has on-going internal controls to monitor contract compliance and address any deficiencies or areas of improvement. Monitoring controls include review of data monthly and meets with key staff involved with the project to identify areas meeting predetermined outcomes and any areas not meeting benchmarks. If there are any areas identified as needing improvement, Centro Mater team works together to develop and implement an improvement plan to address the shortcoming and ensure compliance.

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)
- Local Entity
- University or College



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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