

Appropriations Project Request - Fiscal Year 2020-21

For projects meeting the Definition of House Rule 5.14

1. Title of Project: Character Speaks Adult Re-entry Program
2. Date of Submission: 11/14/2019
3. House Member Sponsor: James Grant
Members Copied:

4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? No
If answer to 4a is "No" skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d, Col. E
- 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 for FY 2019-20 <i>(If appropriated in 2019-20 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)</i>			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2020-21 <i>(Requests for additional RECURRING funds are prohibited.)</i>		
Column:	A	B	C	D	E	F
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated <i>(Recurring plus Nonrecurring: column A + column B)</i>	Recurring Base Budget <i>(Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A)</i>	Additional Nonrecurring Request	TOTAL Nonrecurring plus Recurring Base Funds <i>(Will equal the amount from the Recurring base in Column D plus the Additional Nonrecurring Request in Column E.)</i>
Input Amounts:					817,000	817,000

5. Are funds for this issue requested in a state agency's Legislative Budget Request submitted for FY 2020-21? No
 - 5a. If yes, which state agency?
 - 5b. If no, which is the most appropriate state agency to place an appropriation for the issue being requested? Department of Corrections
 - 5c. Has the appropriate state agency for administering the funding, if the request were appropriated, been contacted? Yes
 - 5d. Describe penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures which the agency should provide in its contract to administer the funding if appropriated.
Reduction in funds from the state as a percentage of failed program participants.

6. Requester:

- a. Name: Sammy Desal
- b. Organization: Character Speaks, Inc.
- c. Email: characterspeaks@gmail.com
- d. Phone #: (352)317-1136

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

- a. Name: Sammy Desal
- b. Organization: Character Speaks, Inc.
- c. Email: characterspeaks@gmail.com
- d. Phone #: (352)317-1136

8. Is there a registered lobbyist working to secure funding for this project?

- a. Name: Mark Flynn
- b. Firm: Path Finder Communications
- c. Email: mwflynn@icloud.com
- d. Phone #: (850)320-5555

9. Organization or Name of entity receiving funds:

- a. Name: Character Speaks, Inc.
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended): Alachua
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding): Alachua, Baker, Hardee, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas

10. What type of organization is the entity that will receive the funds? (Select one)

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

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

With the funding requested, the Character Speaks Adult Re-Entry Program (CSARP) will serve over two thousand inmates in ten facilities over eight counties within the state of Florida. In addition to the students who are currently being served in Gainesville, we will serve students at Baker Re-entry Center, Marion CI, Lowell CI, Central Florida Reception Center, Zephyrhills CI, Orlando CRC, Kissimmee CRC and St. Petersburg CRC.

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

Spending Category	Description	Nonrecurring (Should equal 4d, Col. E) Enter "0" if request is zero for the category
Administrative Costs:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Executive Director: \$110,000 Health Care: \$600 a month = \$7,200 Payroll taxes = \$8,415	125,615
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. Other Salary and Benefits	Job Placement Coordinator: \$75,000 Health Care: \$600 a month = \$7,200 Payroll taxes = \$5,733.75 5% retirement = \$3,750 Director of Development: \$50,000 Health Care: \$600 a month = \$7,200 5% retirement = \$2,500 Payroll taxes = \$3,822.50 Administrative Assistant: \$20/hr and 25 hrs a week X 52 weeks = \$26,000	181,206
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> c. Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Supplies: This includes classroom supplies (\$2,000 per site X 10 sites = \$20,000) clothes, bus pass, Office Supplies, Equipment, Printing and Copies = \$181,800 Rent and Utilities = \$20,000 Audit/Legal = \$30,000 Phone: \$100 a month X 4 = \$4,800 Travel: \$9,000 a month X	365,919

	12=\$108,000 Meeting Expenses: \$5,000 Accounting/Bookkeeping \$5,000 Marketing/Advertising=\$10,000	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	10 teachers: \$25/hr for Gainesville teacher, \$22/hr for the other three work release center sites. \$35/hr for the other six sites/prisons. Each instructor will teach five hours a week. Total cost for teacher: \$78,260 Contracting out Human Resources: \$50,000 Contracting out IT: \$10,000 Training: \$6,000	144,260
Operational Costs:		
<input type="checkbox"/> e. Salaries and Benefits		
<input type="checkbox"/> f. Expenses/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> g. Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
<input type="checkbox"/> h. Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
TOTAL		817,000

13. For the Fixed Capital Costs requested with this issue (In Question 12, category “h. Fixed Capital Outlay” was selected), what type of ownership will the facility be under when complete? (Select one correct option)

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)

14. Is the project request an information technology project?

No

15. 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

15a. Please Describe:

The former mayor of Gainesville, Florida and the City of Gainesville wrote a strong letter of support for the program. Additionally, the local Director for Bridges International wrote a letter documenting all of the successes of our program over the last three years.

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

Yes

16a. Please Describe:

OPPAGA

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

Yes

17a. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the purpose of the funds?

Resume building, speech proficiency, interview training, role play and employer expectations are primary in what is being taught.

17b. Describe the direct services to be provided to the citizens by the funding requested.

As a result of the funding, over two thousand inmates will receive comprehensive vocational training and be placed with an employer. The program will provide long-term, full time employment to these adult inmates throughout the state of Florida. There is a 30% recidivism rate for inmates within the first three years of release. There is also a 15% recidivism over three years for work release inmates.

17c. 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
- 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)

17d. How many in the target population are expected to be served?

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

18. 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
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve physical health		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve mental health		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create specific immediate job opportunities	At least 50% of the students we serve will gain employment within three weeks of being released from a DOC facility.	Our Job Placement team already has a list of businesses that we are working with to provide employment opportunities to our students.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance specific individual's economic self sufficiency	At least 50% of the students we serve will gain employment within three weeks of being released from a DOC facility. Many of the students we serve have either never had a job or have not been able to maintain the job that they had. A critical component of the Character Speaks curriculum is role play interaction with prospective colleagues and supervisors.	A part of the Character Speaks curriculum is financial literacy. It is emphasized to our students that it is not enough just to get a job, but you must learn the importance of saving money. Living hand to mouth your entire life is a recipe for disaster.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reduce recidivism	According to the DOC, one out of every three ex-offenders commit a criminal offense which sends them back to prison within three years. The most effective way of reducing recidivism is to provide employment	The recidivism rate for inmates at work release center is 15% over three years according to the FLDC. It is 30% for inmates who are in prison and not at a work release center. The proportional average of this is a

	to these ex-offenders.	25% recidivism over three years. Character Speaks expects at least 50% of graduates to get a job within three weeks of being released from a DOC facility. \$817,,000 for 10 sites which totals 2,080 students served annually. 25% of those students= 520 will re-offend in 3 yrs.
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce substance abuse		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Divert from Criminal/Juvenile justice system	If students can attain gainful employment, their self esteem increases. There is dignity in work. The temptation to re-offend to make quick money will be significantly less.	By obtaining a job quickly into their work release stay, students will develop a structure/routine that involves getting paid. Getting a job is essential to ensuring ex-offenders will no longer be part of the criminal justice system.
<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):		

19. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2020-21 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	817,000	94.2%	N/A

Project Request:			
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
5. Other:	50,000	5.8%	No
TOTAL	867,000	100%	

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

Yes

20a. How much state funding would be requested after 2020-21 over the next 5 years?

- <1M
- 1-3M
- >3-10M
- >10M

20b. How many additional years of state support do you expect to need for this project?

- 1 year
- 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- >= 5 years

20c. What is the total project cost for all years including all federal, local, state, and any other funds? Select the single answer which best describes the total project cost. If funds requested are for ongoing services or for recurring activities, select "ongoing activity".

- ongoing activity – no total cost
- <1M
- 1-3M
- >3-10M
- >10M