

# Budget Detail Request - Fiscal Year 2016-17

Your request will not be officially submitted unless all questions and applicable sub parts are answered.

1. Title of Project: Auditory-Oral Early Intervention Program for children with Hearing Loss
2. Date of Submission: 12/01/2015
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Gayle Harrell

## 4. DETAILS OF AMOUNT REQUESTED:

- a. Has funding been provided in a previous state budget for this activity? Yes  
***If answer to 4a is ?NO? skip 4b and 4c and proceed to 4d***
- b. What is the most recent fiscal year the project was funded? 2015-16
- c. Were the funds provided in the most recent fiscal year subsequently vetoed? Yes
- d. Complete the following Project Request Worksheet to develop your request (Note that Column E will be the total of Recurring funds requested and Column F will be the total Nonrecurring funds requested, the sum of which is the Total of the Funds you are requesting in Column G):

FY:	Input Prior Year Appropriation for this project for FY 2015-16 (If appropriated in FY 2015-16 enter the appropriated amount, even if vetoed.)			Develop New Funds Request for FY 2016-17 (If no new Recurring or Nonrecurring funding is requested, enter zeros.)			
	Column: A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Funds Description:	Prior Year Recurring Funds	Prior Year Nonrecurring Funds	Total Funds Appropriated  (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column A + Column B)	Recurring Base Budget  (Will equal non-vetoed amounts provided in Column A )	<b>INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested</b>	<b>TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested</b>  (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year)	<b>Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding</b>  (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F)
Input Amounts:	0	400,000	400,000	0	600,000	0	600,000

- e. New Nonrecurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:  
 Operating Expenses     Fixed Capital Construction     Other one-time costs
- f. New Recurring Funding Requested for FY 16-17 will be used for:  
 Operating Expenses     Fixed Capital Construction     Other one-time costs

5. Requester:

- a. Name: Theresa Bulger
- b. Organization: The Florida coalition for Spoken Language Options
- c. Email: tdb@privatepublicsolutions.org
- d. Phone #: (904)880-9063

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: Division of Community Health Provision Bureau for Grants
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Statewide
- c. Service Area (Counties being served by the service(s) provided with funding) Statewide

7. Write a project description that will serve as a stand-alone summary of the project for legislative review. The description should summarize the entire project's intended purpose, the purpose of the funds requested (if request is a sub-part of the entire project), and most importantly the detail on how the funds requested will be spent - for example how much will be spent on positions and associated salaries, specifics on capital costs, and detail of operational expenses. The summary must list what local, regional or statewide interests or areas are served. It should also document the need for the funds, the community support and expected results when applicable. Be sure to include the type and amount of services as well as the number of the specific target population that will be served (such as number of home health visits to X, # of elderly, # of school aged children to receive mentoring, # of violent crime victims to receive once a week counseling etc.)

Funds for the Auditory-Oral Early Intervention Program will be used to support salaries for highly qualified personnel responsible for implementing the project. The personnel will include Listening and Spoken Language Specialists (LSLS), speech-language pathologists and teachers with the expertise needed to maximize the listening and spoken language development of children with hearing loss. In addition, expenses will include administrative personnel and operating expenses. The cost of a year of intensive early intervention services for one child with hearing loss in a high quality Auditory-Oral Early Intervention Program is approximately \$36,000. Partial funding is provided through Early Steps contracts and/or public school contracts with local districts which covers far less than one-third (1/3) of the cost. Although these programs work diligently and successfully to fundraise and to secure local, state, and national grants, without the Auditory-Oral Early Intervention Grant funding, these programs will not have the resources to reach underserved families throughout Florida who seek a listening and spoken language outcome for their children. The proposed funding for Auditory-Oral Early Intervention would support auditory-oral programs to hire, train, and maintain staff to implement intensive intervention for children birth through two with hearing loss and their families. Currently, there are auditory-oral programs in Florida that serve young children with hearing loss and their families with highly-trained teams led by certified Listening and Spoken Language Specialists (LSLS). They serve several counties and provide some level of itinerant services, but qualified staff is not in great supply and the distances to be traveled for sessions are often daunting. It is especially difficult for rural and lower population areas to staff their early intervention programs with professionals who have expertise in hearing loss, particularly with regard to the development of listening and spoken language. Families in rural areas have traditionally had to make the difficult choice of moving closer to population centers to gain access to specialized services, or accept intervention alternatives that all too often do not lead to their chosen outcomes. The Auditory-Oral Early Intervention Program will enable families of children birth through two with hearing loss who reside in Florida to access Listening and Spoken Language services and will provide opportunities to increase the knowledge of families, caregivers, and

professionals about hearing loss, hearing technology and listening and spoken language development. Our goals are for these children to have to opportunity to learn to listen and talk and ultimately obtain high student achievement and maximum access to general education eventually resulting in opportunities to pursue career choices through higher education. The target population for this project is children identified with hearing loss birth through two years of age. Ninety-eight percent (98%) of babies born in Florida are screened for hearing loss. However, according to data provided by the FL DOH, only forty percent (40%) of the infants diagnosed with hearing loss receive services by six months of age. When a family receives the news that their newborn infant or young child has a hearing loss, they need timely information and support. There are important decisions that a family has to make at this critical time regarding technology choices and communication modalities. Early support and information for families is essential because the earlier an infant is enrolled in appropriate intervention, the sooner they will close developmental gaps with hearing peers. Florida's investment in Auditory-Oral Early Intervention will transform the lives of young children with hearing loss who reside in Florida. Professionals, families, children, and champions express their deep appreciation to the Florida House of Representatives for supporting funding for Auditory-Oral Early Intervention.

8. Provide the total cost of the project for FY 2016-17 from all sources of funding:

Federal: 0

State: 0 (Excluding the requested Total Amount in #4d, Column G)

Local: 0

Other: 0

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

Yes