

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: Bridgin Freedom Campus Community
2. Date of Submission: 12/18/2015
3. House Member Sponsor(s): Jeanette Nunez

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? No
- 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) | INCREASED or NEW Recurring Requested | TOTAL Nonrecurring Requested (Nonrecurring is one time funding & must be re-requested every year) | Total Funds Requested Over Base Funding (Recurring plus Nonrecurring: Column E + Column F) |
| Input Amounts: | 0 | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 0 | 0 | 4,200,000 | 4,200,000 |

- 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: Laura Hamilton
- b. Organization: Bridgin Freedom, Inc.
- c. Email: laura@bridgingfreedom.com
- d. Phone #: (813)474-4673

6. Organization or Name of Entity Receiving Funds:

- a. Name: Bridging Freedom Inc.
- b. County (County where funds are to be expended) Pasco
- 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.)

Executive Summary of Service Plan ? Bridging Freedom is committed to providing a campus community environment with individualized, holistic, therapeutic safe homes for children traumatized by child sex trafficking. This campus is to provide placement solutions for DCF, the FBI, Department of Justice Human Trafficking Task Forces within Florida, and local state law enforcement that rescue young girls who have been kidnapped, lured and manipulated, or who have run away from troubled homes and find themselves preyed upon by pimps and the adult industry and cannot escape. To view the entire plan see, Appendix A - Bridging Freedom Business Brief Booklet

Does Florida Have a Need? ? Child sex-trafficking is a horrific crime that robs the innocence of its victims causing significant physical, mental and emotional trauma. In the United States each year, hundreds of thousands of children ? at the average age of 12 ? are prostituted against their will. Local undercover agents and law officers rescue between 30 and 60 children in Tampa Bay alone. The urgent problem is there are few, if any, successful programs in Florida, and less than five in the entire country, to rehabilitate rescued children from Stockholm Syndrome and the trauma of being forced to provide services for 15-30 buyers a night, 7 days a week. To view local stats from Tampa FBI Agent, 2013 FBI Undercover Sting numbers, and FBI's appreciation of Bridging Freedom, see Appendix B.

The Expensive Need For Specialized Programing is Due to Stockholm Syndrome ? Stockholm syndrome is best described as trauma bonding. The bond develops through beatings, harrassment, threats, and intimidations. The Freudian theory suggests that the bonding is the individual's response to defend themself by believing the same values as the aggressor and ceasing to become a threat. This bond causes the child to continually run back to the trafficker time and time

again if the cycle is not broken with long term therapy. To view the face of exploitation when a child is rescued over and over with no rehabilitation, see Appendix C.

The Cost If We Do Nothing ? Doing nothing for these children creates a multitude of sociological problems costing our State millions of dollars. ?When considering sex trafficking, it?s easy to name the impact it has on the victim. The victim is stripped entirely of rights, freedom and humanity... The less obvious impact is the one trafficking has on the community... Financially speaking, human trafficking is a burden on the economy... ?Early intervention to avoid sex trafficking of Minnesota?s female youth passes a rigorous benefit-cost test with a return on investment of \$34 in benefit for each \$1 in cost.? To view an article on Human Trafficking?s Wide-Reaching Social Impact see Appendix D.

FL Laws Mandates DCF to Now Provide Services ? Through Florida?s Safe Harbor Law, DCF is now mandated to identify child victims and place them in safe houses. The debate in the State, as of now, is how best to help children who have become sick through their abuse. Is security that provides safety from the trafficker and helps to keep the child progressing through therapy good or bad? The answer is yes; other States have found the answer to this question. To view an article on the debate, and to view the Safe Harbor Law, see Appendix E.

The Solution and Why Does It Work ? Bridging Freedom is modeled after Wellspring Living, a secure campus environment, which has the most successful model in the country having close to a 90% success rate in rehabilitating trafficked girls. We were granted a year and a half mentorship through Wellspring Living to establish a successful program for the State of Florida. Children will complete the program from 9 months to 2 years based on their level of Stockholm Syndrome/Trauma Bonding. The main components of success are:

- 1) Progressive housing is key! When a child is first placed within the program, she is extremely unstable. As she begins to respond to therapy, she will progress to the next home where the environment is more healthy.
- 2) A community and holistic campus environment with individualized rehabilitation is imperative. A secure campus offers protection but allows the girls to be active in therapeutic activities throughout the campus and not secluded inside one house.
- 3) Medical care, and Alcohol and Drug Rehab Collaboration with PEMHS.
- 4) Education from FL Board Certified Educators, Life Skills and Career Development.
- 5) Extremely Important to success is the transitional living program where parents or foster-care parents work to develop relationships with the child while she is going through the therapeutic program. The relationship and commitment that is built with the child ensures a successful transition after program is complete.

Our Progress and Partners ? The Founder of Bridging Freedom completed a Gap Analysis of Services for child sex trafficking victims for the Clearwater/Tampa Bay Area Task Force on Human Trafficking in 2011 due to the undercover agents need of placement solutions. When no services were found in Florida, a Best Practices Search was completed and it was then that Wellspring Living was identified as a program partner. After forging ahead, with the community?s support, Bridging Freedom has progressed greatly to bring a healing campus to Tampa Bay. This project takes a team of experts. We are very encouraged with our community partnerships that have been developed to help to make this campus a reality.

Our Board ? A professional Board of Directors and Advisory Board is imperative to successfully building a sustainable organization. Our Board of Directors are professionals in law, finance, public health, communications, and community advocacy. Our newest Board Member is Terry Coonan, J. D., M.A., M.Div., Director of FSU's Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. To view the biographies of The Board of Directors, see Appendix G.

Phase I Success ? Bridging Freedom and Community Partnerships ? Bridging Freedom has been successful in educating Florida's communities of the prevalence of child sex trafficking and in building community partnerships to begin to build this successful solution. We have approximately \$1,821,000 in community partnerships through the donation of 77+ remote acres, pro bono partnership with DeBartolo Development for Project Management and Construction Management, pro bono partnership with Arc3 Architecture for site concept plans for county approvals, large matching grant opportunities through Kforce, and Freedom League Partners committing \$7,000 for 7 years with organizations such as Sykes Enterprises, Idlewild Baptist Church and many more. Appendix H.

Phase II Success ? Bridging Freedom, Community Partners, and the State of Florida ? With the success of partnering with the community, and because of the hard work and passion of the legislation to support successful programs to be built in Florida, our request to partner with the State of Florida was granted. In July 2015, \$1,000,000 from the General Revenue Fund was provided to Bridging Freedom for the development of a community-based, safe home campus for residential treatment services to victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation. Bridging Freedom is grateful and encouraged beyond measure for the State's support and partnership in helping us to progress towards providing healing to our children. In just a few short months since July, we have progressed greatly in the execution of this grant for the site development. Appendix I includes the following documents:

- ? Final Site Concept Plans needed for county approvals
- ? Contracts/Scope Services with civil engineers Florida Design Consultants, Arc3 Architecture for construction drawings, and Terracon Engineers and Scientists for geotechnical services
- ? Groundbreaking Ceremony
- ? Certified Survey
- ? Timeline for project management, Budget/Draw Schedule for Site Development

How You Can Further Partner to Provide Rehabilitation and to Restore Stolen Childhoods ? With our success in building community and state partnerships in Phases I and II, Bridging Freedom stands ready to partner in our next phase to build traditional homes and a campus community environment. The 7 homes with furniture, fixtures, and equipment will provide the girls with their own bedroom and bathroom within a warm and traditional-style home with front porches overlooking a community environment filled with therapeutic activities, education, and opportunities to find hope and purpose. The complete build for 44 rescued girls will be approximately \$4,200,000.

Once the campus is built, private diversified revenue streams will be sought to provide for the \$3,600,000 therapeutic and operations program that care for 44 girls and employ 60 staff annually. Within this budget, the Total Cost Per Child Per Day with DCF Subsidy equates to just \$44.00 per day, making this program achievable. This achievable task will be accomplished through the development of Freedom League Partners.

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: 882,594

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

No