



Submission of Information

Request for Changes from Currently Contracted Network Service Providers or Request for Funding from Uncontracted Service Providers

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Introduction

LSF Health Systems (LSFHS) is the Managing Entity for the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH) programs in the Northeast and North Central Florida Region. LSFHS is responsible for the administration of mental health and substance abuse treatment programs for the underserved populations creating a safety net for vulnerable consumers.

Each program serves the neediest individuals that meet DCF's SAMH target population criteria in the Northeast and North Central region and provides for a comprehensive array of outpatient, inpatient and residential services including, but not limited to; therapy, case management, medication management, residential, room and board, crisis and emergency support, prevention, intervention, outreach, peer services, supported housing, and supported employment.

LSFHS uses the Submission of Information process for the following:

- Requests for funding from uncontracted service providers;
- Requests for restoration of funds pulled due to lapse;
- Requests for changes to programming;
- Request for shifts between funding areas;
- Requests for an increase in funding for any reason.

It is the policy for contracted Network Service Providers to provide information and justification for any of the above circumstances. LSFHS accepts submissions from providers at any time and may also initiate this process due to a specific funding concern within the system of care including the need to redistribute lapsed funding.

Submissions shall be submitted to the Network Service Provider's assigned Network Manager via email. LSFHS Management Team will review all submissions, conduct an analysis of the impact of the request, and provide a written response, if chosen for the next step in the selection process. Additional information and follow-up questions may be solicited based on this review.

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Funding Request Form

Please fill out the information below accurately and completely, then submit to procurement@lsfnet.org.

1. Organization Name, Address and Contract Number (if current Network Service Provider):

Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

2. Organization Contact Person Name, Email, and Phone Number for this Submission:

Misty Woods, mwoods@alachuacounty.us 352-384-3136

3. Briefly describe the programs, counties and populations served which are impacted by this request.

This request is being solicited on behalf of Alachua County Board of County Commissioners for Alachua County residents. The County's population is approximately 279,000 people. In the last four years, there have been 7,405 overdoses (including alcohol) in the County. Year-to-date in 2025, Alachua County Fire Rescue responded to 240 overdoses, 39 required the administration of Narcan. Alachua County Fire Rescue has an overdose response program with a specialized team to connect identified at risk residents to social support, recovery support, and health care services to disrupt opiate addiction. A major focus is to reduce barriers to treatment for affected residents addicted and at risk of an overdose. This will allow MIH/CORE to respond 7 days a week

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4. Briefly describe your organization's need for additional funding, for a change in programming and/or for a change in funding as currently allocated. **Please include the dollar amount(s) you are requesting and whether or not the amount requested is for a full year or partial.** If the need for additional funding is due to funding being lapsed in the previous Fiscal Year, please provide an explanation for the lapse and describe your organization's capacity to spend funds if restored.

In order to meet the C.O.R.E. grant program requirements Alachua County is asking for \$707,974.00. Funding request is for July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026:

Salaries and Fringe Benefits \$489,936.00
Travel and training \$13,000.00
Equipment \$62,646.00
Medical and pharmacy \$105,000.00
Subcontracted Medical Director services \$5,000.00
Operating Supplies and Expenses \$32,392.00

Total \$707,974.00

5. Briefly describe your organization's plan for the additional funding, change in funding or change in programming. In the event that a service is being discontinued, this plan should outline how the previously served population will be served after the change is made.

The CORE Team, in conjunction with our 24-hour rescue units that will carry Suboxone for initial induction and the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) team, will enable us to expand coverage for Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) to 7 days per week. This integration of services ensures that participants receive continuous care, no matter the time of day, significantly improving their access to treatment and support. The CORE Team, consisting of social worker/mental health counselor, case manager, peer support specialists, and medical staff, will provide peer support coaching and help build a strong recovery network. Response to overdoses in local EDs will be provided 24/7. The team will also offer mental health services and make necessary referrals to ensure participants are receiving appropriate care. Additionally, the team will provide critical MAT during withdrawal periods, bridging the gap for those who have not yet connected with a provider.

This collaborative staffing model, paired with the expanded MAT coverage, offers holistic, ongoing support to individuals in need, improving their chances for recovery and overall well-being.

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6. If a license is required for the proposed program, have you obtained it (DCF Substance Abuse license for Outpatient services, AHCA license, etc.)? If not, but you have submitted your application, please describe what stage in the process you are in?

Yes, OPUS has an active license with DCF as a substance abuse outpatient provider. According to DCF, MAT services can be provided under a Doctors' medical license. Alachua County Fire Rescue has a Medical Director who provides Telehealth consultations as needed.

7. Briefly describe your organization's expertise about the delivery of service to the identified population which will be impacted by this change.

The Clinical Supervisor of the Court Services OPUS Outpatient Counseling program is a licensed Mental Health Counselor and a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Florida. With over 15 years of experience providing substance abuse treatment across multiple levels of care, he is a board-qualified supervisor in both disciplines. Additionally, the Clinical Supervisor holds a graduate degree in Health Care Administration, enhancing his ability to manage both clinical and administrative aspects of the program.

Alachua County Fire Rescue is supported by a skilled team that includes experienced paramedicine professionals, peer specialists, case managers, and mental health counselors. The team is further guided by a medical director, who provides clinical oversight and supervision for the paramedics delivering healthcare services such as Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and medical case management. This comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach ensures high-quality, coordinated care for individuals in need of support.

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8. Are the changes outlined above to be made for this fiscal year only or to be continued beyond year-end into subsequent fiscal years, assuming an ongoing contractual relationship between the agency and LSF Health Systems? Please explain this response.

This program is intended to extend into the future in perpetuity if there continues to be a need in the community. The intent is to expand the scope of the program as experience is gained and demand for access is understood.

9. Define and describe the Program Goals.

The goals of a CORE program are to provide comprehensive, coordinated support to individuals by reducing barriers to treatment and ensuring access to essential services like medical care, addiction treatment, mental health counseling, and social support. By promoting recovery, engagement, and retention in care, the program focuses on improving individuals' quality of life, reducing overdose and suicide risks, and fostering community reintegration. The CORE team works to ensure services are well-coordinated, addressing both immediate and long-term needs, while empowering individuals to achieve self-sufficiency and overall wellness.

10. Define and describe the Proposed Outcome Measures for the program in which funding is being requested.

Outcome measures for a CORE program focus on evaluating treatment engagement, health improvements, substance use reduction, and housing stability. Key indicators include tracking participants' retention in treatment, progress in mental health and physical health, reductions in substance use, and achievement of stable housing, food and employment.

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- 11. Outside organizations only: Describe your organization's data collection capacity and list the name of the data collection system. If you utilize an Electronic Health Record (EHR) system, confirm its capacity to export data as an XML file.**

Alachua County Fire Rescue will onboard a new Electronic Health Record (EHR) that has the functionality to generate integrate with state reporting requirements for both emergency services and DCF purposes. This EHR will have the overdose response program's data separate as its own confidential program with privacy walls between it and other therapeutic programs in Court Services. The EHR will contain participant case management data, medical screening information, and other medical and psychotherapeutic documentation.

- 12. Outside organizations only: Describe your organization's business administration capacity specifically related to human resources and financial management.**

Alachua County Board of County Commissioners has a Human Resources Department that facilitates the advertisement of positions, the screening of applicants (to include vehicle driving histories as well as criminal background checks), hiring, and new employee orientation. Alachua County also has a dedicated staff for all financial management aside from the programmatic operations. Annually, an outside accounting firm performs an audit of all funds.

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13. **Outside organizations only:** Level 2 Background Screening, through the DCF Clearinghouse, is a requirement for staff members from each agency who enters into a contract with LSFHS. Does your organization currently conduct Level 2 Background Screenings for staff members using this method? If not, are you willing to conduct the required screenings for compliance with the contract?

We do conduct Level 2 background screenings for staff members as required.

14. Please provide, as an attachment, the Exhibit C and D - Projected Operating and Capital Budget, using the most recent template, outlining the requested funding including OCAs and associated covered services. Statistics or data regarding utilization to substantiate the request may also be supplied.

Harold Theus

Signature of Organization's CEO

6/25/2025

Date

Cheryl Ellis

Signature of Organization's Contract Manager

6/25/2025

Date