

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH HOME BUILDERS INSTITUTE (HBI), IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$436,000, TO SERVE WAGES CLIENTS AND OTHER ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CLIENTS, JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS:** II - STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT/PREPARATION FOR POST SECONDARY EXPERIENCE  
IX - COMMUNITY/HOME/PARENT/SCHOOL/ BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has been involved in the Housing Renovation Partnership Program through South Dade Adult Education Center, in collaboration with the Home Builders Institute (HBI), the Work and Gain Employment for Self-Sufficiency (WAGES) Coalition, the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD) agency, and the Miami-Dade Housing and Urban Development (Miami-Dade HUD) agency. These organization joined together to provide vocational training and job placement for Welfare/WAGES clients.

HBI, a non-profit organization, provides total supervision and management of the project at the work site. South Dade Adult Education Center provides basic skills instruction. HBI employs certified teachers to provide instruction to the students in the building maintenance program, consistent with Florida Department of Education vocational program standards, through a contractual agreement with M-DCPS. In addition, WAGES provides support services such as child care and transportation for its clients. Miami-Dade HUD provides the laboratory setting for the building maintenance students, i.e., low-cost housing units to be repaired. This program focuses on recruiting low-income, unskilled individuals interested in becoming employable in the building maintenance and landscaping field. Clients are referred to M-DCPS by WAGES or by community-based organizations (CBOs) such as Lutheran Ministries, Centro Campesino, and the Urban League. The CBOs are sponsored by the WAGES Coalition, community grants, or other sources in Florida.

Due to delays by the WAGES Coalition in establishing referral centers during the 1998-99 school year, the referral and training cycle was late in getting started. To date, we have served 126 students and 78 percent of those students have met both the academic testing and skill requirements for a vocational certificate and have been placed on jobs.

At this time, the majority of students are still in training and their placement will not be reflected until the school year ends. The program is in operation at Scott Carver, Centro Campesino, South Dade Adult Education Center, Miami Jobs Corps and Arthur Mays Villas in South Dade.

For every 900 hours of instruction and upon meeting the performance requirements as stipulated in the Workforce Development Education Fund, HBI will receive \$3,231.53, for a total amount not to exceed \$436,000.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 1999-2000 General Fund of the Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 1999 under Fund 0100, Object 5390, Location 8001, Program 9889, Function 5338.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021 reviewed this contract on April 22, 1999, and recommended that an exception to the rule regarding bids or Requests for Proposals be granted as otherwise determined by the committee.

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to exercise his discretion to renew this contractual agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

The President and Chief Executive Officer of Home Builders Institute is Philip Polivchak.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

- 1) authorize the Superintendent to renew a contractual agreement with Home Builders Institute (HBI), a non-profit organization, for a total amount not to exceed \$436,000, to serve WAGES clients and other economically disadvantaged clients, effective July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000;
- 2) authorize the Superintendent to renew this contractual agreement annually for up to two additional one-year periods; and
- 3) grant exception to School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 1999-2000 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 1999.