

August 16, 1999

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO RENEW THE CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CENTRAL, INC., WHEREBY THE AGENCY WILL DESIGNATE FUNDING FOR DAYCARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY MIAMI LAKES TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER STAFF, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2000

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

In the spring of 1999, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) responded to a Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by Family Central, Inc., an agency designated by the Metropolitan Dade County Department of Human Resources to oversee daycare services in the north part of the county. Subsequently, M-DCPS entered into a contractual agreement with Family Central, Inc., whereby the agency has agreed to provide funds for the continuation of preschool daycare at the Miami Job Corps center, an adjunct program under the jurisdiction of Miami Lakes Technical Education Center (MLTEC) staff.

To be eligible for funding from Family Central, several criteria must be met: (1) the requesting agency must be able to demonstrate a financial need based upon socioeconomic data endemic to the area in which the center is located; (2) the clientele served must be parents who qualify for assistance under either the Job Training Partnership Act (JPTA) or the Work and Gain Economic Self-Sufficiency (WAGES) Program; and (3) the daycare center must be licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families (formerly HRS).

MLTEC staff estimates that approximately \$150,000 will be needed to operate the program from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000. This funding will provide food services, supplies, equipment, and salary for a part-time paraprofessional. The daily program includes recreational, social, cultural, and educational activities. Parents will be encouraged to participate.

This arrangement with Family Central, Inc., has been in effect since 1998. As was the case last year, the new agreement will be flexible, stipulating neither the number of children to be served nor the exact sum to be appropriated to the project. Payments will ultimately be based on monthly enrollments which differ according to numbers and age of the children.

No local funds are required.

The president and chief executive officer of Family Central, Inc., is Dr. Barbara A. Weinstein.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to renew the contractual agreement with Family Central, Inc., whereby the agency will designate funding for daycare services provided by Miami Lakes Technical Education Center staff, effective July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000.

No local funds are required.

CBM:mao