

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND FOUR COMMUNITY AGENCIES, TO OPERATE PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, BIRTH THROUGH AGE TWO, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,792,967, FROM JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001**

Authorization is requested to enter into contractual agreements with the Department of Health Children's Medical Services (CMS) Early Intervention Programs (EIPs) and four community agencies to operate programs for students with disabilities, birth through age two, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001. The contractual agreements have been in effect since 1988. The four community agencies participating in this program are listed below:

- Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida (ARC)
- Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc. (ES)
- University of Miami, Debbie Institute
- United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc. (UCP)

The program delivery models designed to meet the diverse needs of this population include center-based services, home-based services, or a combination of the two. Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) funding for each agency varies, based on program delivery models.

Funding for these contracts will be provided, at least in part, by FTE generated from the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), in accordance with the appropriate matrix cost factor for the students served by that agency. Summer programs will be provided through the Supplemental Academic Instruction Program. Payments to ARC, ES, Debbie Institute and UCP represent 90 percent of the 1999-00 FTE generated by FEFP, plus an equivalent prorated amount for summer school, in an amount not to exceed \$4,792,967.

It is requested that the number of students to be served through these agreements remain at a maximum of 448 for the 2000-2001 school year. The agreement with each agency will be developed in cooperation with M-DCPS and EIPs. M-DCPS funding for all four contractual agreements, is outlined below:

- Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida will serve a maximum of 122 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,426,209;
- Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc. will serve a maximum of 131 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,470,740;
- University of Miami, Debbie Institute will serve a maximum of 92 students, in an amount not to exceed \$834,074; and
- United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., will serve a maximum of 103 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,061,944.

In addition to M-DCPS funding, EIPs will contribute Part C funding via rate agreements allocated to each agency, based upon the needs of students served. Part C funding may be used for a range of services including, but not limited to: nursing, therapy, home visits, social work service, family training, transportation and assistance with the identification and placement of eligible students.

Agencies will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of programs, facilities, staff assistance with the identification and placement of students, staff development training and administrative support. In addition to providing the FTE, M-DCPS will provide assistance with identification and placement of eligible students, and monitoring to ensure compliance with applicable requirements. Each contractual agreement may be canceled by any party, for any reason, with 60 days written notice to all parties.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000 under Fund 0100, Function 5217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731.

The Executive Director of Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida is Michael Messer; the President of the Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc. is Joan Bornstein; the Director of University of Miami, Debbie Institute is Rebecca Fewell; and the Executive Director of United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., is Debbie Terenzio.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into contractual agreements with the Department of Health Children's Medical Services Early Intervention Programs and four community agencies to operate programs for students with disabilities, birth through age two, in an amount not to exceed \$4,792,967, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001, as follows:

1. Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida will serve a maximum of 122 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,426,209;
2. Easter Seal Society of Dade County, Inc. will serve a maximum of 131 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,470,740;
3. University of Miami, Debbie Institute will serve a maximum of 92 students, in an amount not to exceed \$834,074; and
4. United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., will serve a maximum of 103 students, in an amount not to exceed \$1,061,944.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the 2000-2001 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2000.

RKF:jdk