

June 8, 2000

Education

Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF FLORIDA AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, DISTRICT 11, TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN A RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM, AND TO HAVE ACCESS TO TWO RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENTS FOR STUDENTS REFERRED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FROM JULY 1, 2000 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001

Authorization is requested to enter into a cooperative agreement with Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS) and the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), District 11. CHS operates a residential treatment program designed to serve adolescents with emotional problems in a community-based residential facility. The program is located in Miami Springs, Florida, and is designed to serve adolescents, ages 13 through 18, who have been referred by the DCF Case Review Committee. A cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1991 for the operation of this program.

In exchange for the right to place up to two students in the residential treatment facility, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) will provide educational services to up to 24 students placed at the facility by DCF. In addition, M-DCPS will provide all necessary instructional materials for the students. CHS will provide classroom space, furniture, and fixtures, as well as staff to provide instructional assistance in the classroom and clinical support services.

The students who are placed by M-DCPS will be determined by a district staffing committee to be in need of a residential program in order to meet their educational needs. Referrals from M-DCPS are subject to review and approval by the Regional Vice President of CHS and the DCF Case Review Committee.

The Regional Vice President of Children's Home Society of Florida is Ms. Sara Herald. The District Administrator of the Florida Department of Children and Families, District 11, is Mr. Charles Auslander.

There is no exchange of funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with Children's Home Society of Florida and the Florida Department of Children and Families, District 11, to provide educational services to exceptional students in a residential treatment program, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001; and
2. have access to two residential placements at Children's Home Society of Florida for students referred by Miami-Dade County Public Schools, from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

There is no exchange of funds.

RKF:jf