

Roger C. Cuevas, Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: JOIN IN THE APPLICATION OF THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE CENTER TO REMOVE RESTRICTIONS

In July 1994, the City of Miami Commission approved the operations of the Homeless Assistance Center located at 1550 North Miami Avenue. In the agreement, The City imposed 13 restrictions in granting approval for the operation of the center. They are as follow:

1. the facility shall operate with a maximum of 350 beds;
2. a curfew shall be incorporated as part of the facility's rules;
3. 24-hour police security (inside and outside the facility) shall be provided at the expense of the Community Partnership for the Homeless, Inc., a Florida non-profit corporation (the "Partnership"), as deemed adequate by the City Manager;
4. the facility shall serve only the City of Miami's homeless, with priority placement to be given to current homeless individuals within a 1.5 mile radius from the facility;
5. on-site feeding shall be limited to facility and program residents only; there shall be no general feedings or provisions of meals to the general public;
6. the facility shall provide a van or tram service for referrals: appointments, transfers of facility residents or walk-ins;
7. the facility shall post "No Loitering" signs and shall establish an enforcement policy or plan;
8. the facility's operational rules, as amended from time to time regarding liquor, drugs and fighting, shall be available for review by the public at any time and shall include an enforcement policy;
9. the facility is approved for temporary residential stays only: each resident shall stay for a period of time not to exceed approximately 30-60 days;
10. prior to the issuance of any building permits: a) a complete signage plan shall be submitted for review and approval by the Planning, Building and Zoning Department, b) the proposed landscape plan shall be amended to maintain visibility triangles at the corners of the facility and c) the facility shall furnish a sufficient number of trash containers, as determined by the Planning, Building and Zoning Department;
11. a monitor, hired by the City but paid by the Partnership, shall be engaged to protect the City's interests;

12. a report, with recommendations, shall be presented to the City Commission annually, said report shall include an annual evaluation by an area university which analyzes the program and makes recommendations, and input from a neighborhood advisory committee, said committee to be composed of the Partnership advisory committee, said committee to be composed of the Partnership advisory committee members plus representatives from the following neighborhoods: Omni, Edgewater, Overtown, Wynwood and the Omni, Edgewater, Overtown, Wynwood Community Improvement Association, Inc. and Mr. Henry Crespo of the City's Zoning Board or any other individual designated by the Zoning Board. If the facility is not determined by the City Commission at the annual review to be in compliance with the conditions of the Special Exception Permit, the City Commission shall have the authority to revoke the Special Exemption Permit;
13. no Certificate of Occupancy shall be issued for this facility until governmental site approval has been received for a second shelter site to provide a minimum of 350 beds to be located in Dade County outside the boundaries of the City of Miami.

Mr. Alvah H. Chapman, Jr., Chairman of the Community Partnership for the Homeless, Inc., has asked that all owners of interest in the property join in the application requesting that the City remove these restrictions on the grounds that they adversely impact and hinder the operations of the center, increase the operational costs and, in some cases, are obsolete. The Superintendent is in agreement with Mr. Chapman.

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

- 1) authorize the Superintendent to execute the application of the Homeless Assistance Center to eliminate all 13 conditions contained in the Special Exemption that govern the operations of the 1550 North Miami Homeless Assistance Center and
- 2) authorize the attorneys for the Community Partnership for the Homeless, Inc., to serve as attorneys in fact for the Board, in making statements advocating the elimination of the 13 conditions to the Special Exemption.

PJP:ae