

Education

Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SOUTH FLORIDA EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING CONSORTIUM FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO RECRUIT AND PROVIDE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES TO 400 WELFARE-TO-WORK PARTICIPANTS UNDER A PERFORMANCE-BASED PAYMENT SCHEDULE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$831,667, FROM MARCH 30, 2001 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2001

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent or his desingee to enter into a contractual agreement between the South Florida Employment and Training Consortium (SFETC) and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) pursuant to terms of the Step-Up Challenge Grant awarded by Workforce Florida, Inc. The Step-Up Challenge Grant program utilizes a combination of state Welfare-to-Work funds (50%), local Welfare-to-Work funds (33%), and local matching funds (17%). State and local Welfare-to-Work funding will be distributed through the SFETC, in an amount not to exceed \$831,667 for a total project budget of \$998,000.

The M-DCPS project seeks to enable long-term welfare recipients to achieve full-time employment or to upgrade their income by 50 percent through education, training, and employment services. Under the terms of the proposal approved by Workforce Florida, Inc., M-DCPS will recruit eligible Welfare-to-Work participants; provide training and employment services; and will utilize a variety of resources including training wages, training costs (tuition, fees, books, and supplies), meals or meal vouchers, supplemental child care, and transportation. SFETC will certify the eligibility of individuals for financial assistance and will provide up to \$831,667, based on the achievement of specific performance benchmarks from March 30, 2001 through August 31, 2001.

A matching amount of 17 percent in local funds is required, up to \$166,333, if all performance benchmarks are achieved. M-DCPS has identified current staff and in-kind resources to meet this requirement.

Mr. Joseph Alfano is the Executive Director of the South Florida Employment and Training Consortium.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 2000-2001 Adopted Budget under Fund 0100, Function 9100, Program 8390, Object 5148, Location 8001.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a contractual agreement with the South Florida Employment and Training Consortium for services rendered by Miami-Dade County Public Schools to recruit and provide training and employment services to 400 Welfare-to-Work participants under a performance-based payment schedule, in an amount not to exceed \$831,667, from March 30, 2001 through August 31, 2001.

The appropriation for this item is included in the 2000-2001 Adopted Budget.

NJP:mdn