

Education  
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE MIAMI-DADE HOUSING AGENCY REGARDING ITS HOME OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE EVERYWHERE (HOPE) VI REVITALIZATION PROGRAM FOR SCOTT/CARVER HOMES, FROM JULY 1, 2001 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2002**

The Miami-Dade Housing Agency (M-DHA), local businesses, public agencies, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD) have joined forces to create the Miami-Dade Housing Authority Revitalization Program (M-DHARP), which operates locally under the name Home Ownership Opportunity for People Everywhere (HOPE) VI Revitalization Program for Scott/Carver Homes.

HOPE VI was designed to end the physical, social, and economic isolation of obsolete public housing by re-creating and supporting sustainable communities and lifting residents from dependence and persistent poverty. The cooperative agreement between the M-DHA and Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is designed to reduce unemployment and to expand job opportunities. In addition to providing vocational training to high school and postsecondary students in the building and landscaping of at least eight homes in the project areas, M-DCPS will provide adult basic education classes as needed. Within the HOPE VI target areas and surrounding communities, over 60 percent of adults 25 years and older have no high school diploma.

The schools involved in the HOPE Project training will recruit high school and postsecondary students from the target population and provide teachers, instruction, equipment, and tools, utilizing already existing programs and monies generated through Workforce Development Act funds.

M-DHARP will make available a minimum of eight lots, two per year, for a period of four years to allow the students to develop skills in construction and landscaping by constructing the homes from start to finish with materials supplied by M-DHA. The homes and lots will remain the property of M-DHA.

M-DHA will also donate to M-DCPS a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the home(s) based upon building costs, such proceeds to be used for scholarships and employment opportunities.

Mr. Rene Rodriguez is the Director of the Miami-Dade Housing Agency.

No local funds are required.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Miami-Dade Housing Agency regarding its Home Ownership Opportunity for People Everywhere (HOPE) VI Revitalization Program for Scott/Carver Homes, from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.

No local funds are required.

GKW:jlb