

August 28, 2002

Education  
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH FAMILY CENTRAL, INC., IN COLLABORATION WITH FLORIDA DIAGNOSTIC LEARNING RESOURCE SYSTEM (FDLRS)- SOUTH TO PROVIDE PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL EVALUATIONS FOR PRESCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS, FROM SEPTEMBER 13, 2002 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003**

**COMMITTEE: ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS**

As the State-designated administrator of subsidized child care funds for northern Miami-Dade County, Family Central, Inc., (FCI) subcontracts with more than 120 child care centers and homes throughout the northern third of the county. FCI helps to provide high quality, safe, and affordable child care for approximately 8,860 Miami-Dade County children annually and offers training and technical assistance to parents, teachers, and caregivers. The goal of this cooperative agreement is to facilitate early identification and assessment of children with special needs. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since August 2001.

In accordance with this cooperative agreement, FCI will provide hearing, language, and vision screenings, and administer speech and language assessments to children referred to Florida Diagnostic Learning Resource System (FDLRS)-South. FCI will provide space for a FDLRS-South psychologist and social worker to conduct psychoeducational evaluations, social histories, and adaptive assessments and identify space for a sound proof booth to conduct audiological evaluations.

The president and chief executive officer of Family Central, Inc., is Dr. Barbara A. Weinstein.

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 Family Central, Inc., in collaboration with FDLRS-South to provide psychoeducational evaluations for preschool-age students from September 13, 2002 through June 30, 2003; and
2. renew this cooperative agreement for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

RKF:cm