

Education  
Mercedes Toural, Associate Superintendent

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO SELECT ONE OR MORE PROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY(IES) TO PROVIDE WEEKLY GROUP AND/OR INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING TO IMMIGRANT AND LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENT STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000, EFFECTIVE MARCH 12, 2003, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2003**

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

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select one or more professional mental health agency(ies) to provide weekly group and/or individual counseling to limited English proficient (LEP) and immigrant students and their families who have been affected by traumatic experiences. Counseling services were provided through the Project Florida Learning Opportunities & Upgrades (FLOURISH) grant which ends on December 31, 2002. These services will continue to be funded through Title III, Language Instruction for Limited English Proficient and Immigrant Students, under the No Child Left Behind Act grant.

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The purpose of the RFP is to ensure that all eligible agencies are provided an opportunity to submit a proposal and that the agency(ies) recommended for the Board's consideration conform(s) to Board-approved standards for contracted services.

A committee will determine the selection of the mental health agency(ies) on the basis of qualification, experience, licensure, and insurance. The selection committee will consist of:

- two representatives from the Division of Student Services
- a representative from the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages
- a representative from the Office of Exceptional Student Education and Student/Career Services
- a community representative
- a representative from Risk and Benefits Management
- a representative from the Division of Business Development and Assistance
- a representative from the Division of Procurement Management and Materials Testing

The estimated time for implementation is as follows:

Procurement Contract Review Committee	January 9, 2003
Request Board Approval to Issue Request For Proposals	January 15, 2003
Mailing of Request For Proposals	January 17, 2003
Opening of Proposals	February 4, 2003
Evaluation Completed by Selection Committee	February 10, 2003
Recommendation to School Board for Award	March 12, 2003

**REVISED  
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A copy of the RFP will be provided to Board Members under separate cover and will be available for inspection in the Office of Board Recording Secretary and in the Citizen Information Center.

The appropriation for this item is included in the Contracted Programs Fund of the budget under Fund 0420, Function 6400, Program 3049, Object 5310, Location 9609. ] Revised

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

1. authorize the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals to select one or more professional mental health agency(ies) to provide weekly group and/or individual counseling to limited English proficient and immigrant students and their families who have been affected by traumatic experiences; and
2. approve the establishment of a selection committee to evaluate proposals submitted.

LCR/JHU:gj