

Mercedes Toural, Chief Education Officer
and Deputy Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER
INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH HIS HOUSE CHILDREN'S
HOME TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS

In compliance with Section 1003.58, Florida Statute, the Office of Adult/Vocational, Alternative and Community Education (OAVACE), Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), and His House Children's Home, a nonprofit agency in Miami-Dade County, Florida, have developed a cooperative agreement to provide educational and related services for school-age abused, neglected, and abandoned students within the Florida Department of Children's and Families' custody, from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. This is the first year contracting with His House Children's Home.

The cooperative agreement involves commitments between His House Children's Home and The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, as outlined in the cooperative agreement:

- A. M-DCPS will provide an educational program, including teachers, materials, and equipment, not including furniture, on the same basis as provided to regular classes within M-DCPS. The principal of the Educational Alternative Outreach Program will provide the supervision of teachers.
- B. M-DCPS will also provide educational and related services for students who have been abused, neglected, and abandoned and who are in the custody of the Florida Department of Children's and Families.
- C. His House Children's Home will provide classroom space in existing buildings that meet state specifications. Additionally, the agency will provide furniture and appropriate educationally relevant records of school-age students.

The His House Children's Home Program will operate under the auspices of the Educational Alternative Outreach Program, OAVACE. The educational component offered will comply with the district's curriculum. It is anticipated that approximately 50 at-risk students will be served through this program.

The funds necessary for implementing M-DCPS' portion of this agreement will be provided by FTE dollars generated through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). In the event that the district, due to economic conditions, incurs a subsequent proration of funds, the allocation of teachers, materials, supplies, and equipment may be reduced.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2004-2005 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2004 under Fund 0100, Function 5120, Program 6090, Object 5144, Location 8017. This budget structure is provided to reflect M-DCPS' internal expenditures.

Ms. Jean Caceres-Gonzalez is the Executive Director and Founder of this program.

No exchange of funds is required for this program.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into cooperative agreement with His House Children's Home to provide educational and related services to school-age, abused, neglected, and abandoned students within the Florida Department of Children's and Families' custody for the period of July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2004-2005 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2004.

No exchange of funds is required for this program.

GMK/CR/NJP:om