

Sonia E. Díaz, Ed. D., Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO SELECT
PROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES TO PROVIDE
INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, AND FAMILY COUNSELING SERVICES
TO ELIGIBLE IMMIGRANT AND/OR LIMITED ENGLISH
PROFICIENT STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE
BEEN AFFECTED BY TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES AND
APPROVE A SELECTION COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE THE
PROPOSALS**

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Since the 2001-2002 school year, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has contracted with professional mental health agencies to provide mental health counseling services to eligible immigrant and/or limited English proficient (LEP) students and their families who have been affected by traumatic experiences.

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select professional mental health agencies to provide group counseling and individual and/or family counseling to eligible LEP and immigrant students who have been affected by traumatic experiences.

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

A committee will determine the selection for the mental health agencies 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 Division 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; and
- a representative from the Division of Procurement Management and Materials Testing.

The estimated time for implementation is as follows:

Procurement Contract Review Committee	January 20, 2005
Request Board Approval to Issue Request for Proposals	March 16, 2005
Mailing of Request for Proposals	March 23, 2005
Evaluation Completed by Selection Committee	May 2, 2005
Recommendation to School Board for Award	June 15, 2005

Copies of the RFP will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and are available for inspection by the public in the Office of Board Recording Secretary, Room 924, and the Citizen Information center, Room 158, 1450 NE Second Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. issue a Request for Proposals to select professional mental health agencies to provide weekly group and/or individual counseling to eligible LEP and/or 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:mvz