

June 29, 2005

Antoinette P. Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum, Instruction, and School Improvement

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER, SOUTH MIAMI HOSPITAL, TO PROVIDE PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL EVALUATIONS FOR PRESCHOOL-AGE STUDENTS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE FLORIDA DIAGNOSTIC AND LEARNING RESOURCES SYSTEM – SOUTH (FDLRS-SOUTH), EFFECTIVE JULY 14, 2005, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Child Development Center (CDC), South Miami Hospital, has received a grant from the Henry L. and Cathryn Mills Charity Foundation to provide psychoeducational evaluations for prekindergarten children. Treating over 1,000 children each year, the CDC provides a full spectrum of evaluation and treatment services in one facility including occupational and physical therapy, audiology, speech/language pathology, psychology, and social work. The CDC has been providing services to children and families since 1993, and has established an outstanding reputation within the community. FDLRS-South had a cooperative agreement with the CDC during the 2001-2002 school year funded through a grant. The cooperative agreement was entered into again, effective October 21, 2004, through June 30, 2005, when the CDC again received grant funding to provide psychoeducational evaluations for prekindergarten children.

In accordance with this cooperative agreement, CDC will provide psychoeducational evaluations to approximately 33 children referred by FDLRS-South. These evaluations will be completed as per Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) procedures and will include, at a minimum, intellectual and developmental assessments, speech and language evaluations, and adaptive assessments, with pertinent background information. If appropriate, behavior-rating scales will be administered. These evaluations will be provided at no cost to FDLRS-South or to the families.

Funding for said evaluations is being provided by the Henry L. and Cathryn Mills Charity Foundation in the form of a one-year grant to CDC. Evaluations will take place over the coming year, in accordance with CDC scheduling procedures. FDLRS-South will refer families to CDC, coordinate the provision of services, and facilitate placement in M-DCPS, as appropriate.

The Medical Director of the Child Development Center is Dr. Carmen de Lerma. There is no exchange of funds.

C-1

Copies of the cooperative agreement will be transmitted to School Board Members under separate cover and are available for inspection by the public in the Office of the 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 enter into a cooperative agreement with the Child Development Center (CDC), South Miami Hospital, to provide psychoeducational evaluations for preschool-age students in collaboration with The Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System—South (FDLRS-South), effective July 14, 2005, through June 30, 2006.

There is no exchange of funds.

BB/RP:jf