

March 1, 2006

Alberto M. Carvalho, Associate Superintendent  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services

**SUBJECT:            AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH OUR KIDS OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE, INC., TO DELIVER TUTORIAL SERVICES TO SELECTED CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE CURRENTLY RESIDING IN GROUP HOMES LOCATED WITHIN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**

**COMMITTEE:        INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Authorization is requested to enter into a contractual agreement with Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc., (Our Kids) to provide in-home tutorial services to selected children in foster care residing in group homes located within Miami-Dade County in an amount not to exceed \$72,900. The tutorial services will be delivered between March 20, 2006 and May 20, 2006.

Our Kids is a Florida non-profit corporation created in response to the need for local control and leadership of our child welfare system. Our Kids, under a contract with the Florida Department of Children and Families entered into on April 15, 2005, was appointed as the State's agent for the provision of foster care and related services in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. Using a business plan based on best practices; national standards of care guidelines; monitoring and technical assistance; and strong local leadership, Our Kids works in collaboration with local community based organizations that provide the direct services to these children.

Historically, providing tutorial services to students in the foster care system has proven difficult due to the lack of available transportation if the students were to participate in an extended day or Saturday tutorial program. Therefore, in order to provide tutorial services to these neediest of students, Title I Administration, in conjunction with Our Kids, seeks to implement a pilot program that would deliver tutorial services to selected foster children directly in their "homes." As part of the first year of the proposed program, 324 children residing in 45 group homes would be targeted to receive tutorial services delivered by Our Kids for the period between March 20, 2006 and May 20, 2006. Recommendations regarding the continuation or expansion of the program will be based on an evaluation of the success of this pilot program.

**C-83**

This item was reviewed by the Professional Services Committee on February 23, 2006 and was granted a waiver from School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021 based on Sole Source. The appropriation for this item is included in Fund 0420, Object 5310, Location 9617, Program 4313, and Function 5100.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to enter into a contractual agreement with Our Kids of Miami-Dade/Monroe, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$72,900, to deliver tutorial services to dependent children currently residing in group homes located within Miami-Dade County as part of a pilot program, for the period of March 20, 2006 through May 20, 2006.