

Milagros R. Fornell, Associate Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT WITH FOUR COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING SERVICES TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$976,569, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2010, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011, CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2010-2011 DISTRICT BUDGET

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
FRAMEWORK: EDUCATION**

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent of Schools to enter into a contractual agreement with four community agencies that have specific expertise in providing educational and vocational training services to a unique population of students with disabilities (SWD) which includes: autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disabilities, and severe behavior disorders.

This unique population of SWD will receive educational and vocational training in an age-appropriate environment to include, but not limited to, classroom instruction, on-the-job-training, job coaching services, job placement assistance, community-based instruction, and post-school living skills. Students are provided with a variety of employability skills and training including packaging, sorting, collating, assembly skills, basic clerical skills, and culinary skills in a workshop environment.

Funding for services provided by each community agency is delineated below:

- Easter Seals South Florida, Inc. will serve a maximum of 30 students, between the ages of 16-22, in an amount not to exceed \$292,139;
- Exceptional Development Corporation of South Florida will serve a maximum of 30 students between the ages of 18-22, in an amount not to exceed \$287,427;
- Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc. will serve 30 students between the ages of 18-22, in an amount not to exceed \$306,449; and
- Sunrise Community, Inc, will serve 10 students between the ages of 18-22, in amount not to exceed \$90,554.

These programs are evaluated by administrative and support staff from the Division of Special Education. The evaluations including facility reviews, site visits, monitoring student records and program delivery models found the programs to be effective in providing educational and vocational services and to be in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.

The Professional Services Contract Committee established by School Board Rule 6Gx13- 3F-1.021, Professional Services Contracts, reviewed these contracts on May 27, 2010, and recommended that an exception to the School Board Rule regarding bids or Request for Proposals (RFP) be granted as these agencies have specific expertise in providing educational and vocational training services.

The cost of these services will be covered by 75% of the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) generated by the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) based on the student's current Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) and matrix funding levels. The ancillary costs will be covered by the remaining 25% of the FTE.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2010-2011 Tentative Budget under Fund 0100, Function 5217, Program 6840, Object 5310, Location 9731 to be recommended for adoption in July 2010, contingent upon the approval of the 2010-2011 District Budget.

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

1. enter into contractual agreements with four community agencies to provide educational and vocational training services to students with disabilities, in an amount not to exceed \$976,569, effective July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, contingent upon approval of the 2010-2011 District Budget with:
 - Easter Seals South Florida, Inc., (Easter Seals – Culinary Arts), in an amount not to exceed \$292,139;
 - Exceptional Development Corporation of South Florida (EDC), in an amount not to exceed \$287,427;
 - Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Inc., (Goodwill), in an amount not to exceed \$306,449; and
 - Sunrise Community, Inc., (Sunrise - Doral), for an amount not to exceed \$90,554.
2. Grant an exception to Board Rule 6Gx13-3F-1.021, as these agencies have specific expertise in this field.

The appropriation for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2010-2011 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2010, contingent upon approval of the 2010-2011 District Budget.

MRF/jf