

Financial Services
Mr. Ron Y. Steiger, Chief Financial Officer

**SUBJECT: AWARD REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. RFP-19-044-CM –
AMERICAN SIGN INTERPRETATION / TRANSLITERATION,
CAPTION AND/OR COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSCRIPTION
(CART) SERVICES**

COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

**LINK TO STRATEGIC
BLUEPRINT: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

Procurement Management Services, at the request of the Office of Exceptional Student Education, the Office of Communications, the Office of Human Capital and the Office of Adult and Community Education, released the above-referenced solicitation. The purpose of this Request for Proposals (RFP) is to establish a pre-approved list of agencies to provide American Sign Interpretation/Transliteration services to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, students, parents and employees who are deaf or hard of hearing. In addition, the services sought would be provided to students who need Caption and /or Computer-Assisted Realtime Transcription (CART) services at school sites district-wide, as required by M-DCPS. This RFP was advertised on the Procurement Management Services, BidSync and DemandStar websites, as well as emailed to 302 potential bidders via DemandStar.

The initial term of the bid shall be for a three (3) year period, commencing November 18, 2020 through November 17, 2023, and may, by mutual agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and the successful bidders, be extended for two (2) additional one (1) year periods, and if needed, an additional ninety (90) days beyond the expiration of the renewal period.

Strategies were employed to increase SBE/MBE participation. The Goal Setting Committee recommended that this solicitation be open with a 10 point preference for SBE/MBE certified firms. In addition, there was an additional 5 point preference for certified firms who are non-incumbent and have not received business with the District within the previous six (6) month period prior to the solicitation deadline.

Ten (10) vendors responded to this advertised bid, of which one (1) was late and therefore deem non-responsive. Based on the criteria listed in the solicitation and the Selection Committee's scoring, four (4) vendors are being recommended for award, of which two (2) are certified as a Minority/Women Business Enterprise (MWBE).

Two (2) of three (3) firms who are current incumbents offered savings on the hourly rates for interpretation/transliteration services. For IU, LLC dba ACD, the District will see an approximate 6.3% savings off of the hourly rate. For Nationwide Interpreter Resource, Inc, the District will see an approximate 1.2% savings off of the hourly rate.

Fund Source

Various

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida:

1. **AWARD** REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RFP-19-044-CM – AMERICAN SIGN INTERPRETATION/ TRANSLITERATION, CAPTION AND/OR COMPUTER ASSISTED TRANSCRIPTION (CART) SERVICES, to provide American Sign Interpretation/Transliteration services to The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, students, parents and employees who are deaf or hard of hearing, effective November 18, 2020 through November 17, 2023, and may, by mutual agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade county, Florida and the successful bidder, be extended for two (2) additional one (1) year extension periods thereto and if needed, an additional ninety (90) days beyond the expiration of the renewal period, as follows:

GROUP 1 - Students:

- A. IU, LLC DBA ACD **MWBE**
10242 N.W. 47TH STREET, SUITE 10
SUNRISE, FL 33351
OWNER/OFFICER: SHAMROZE SAYED, COO
ASIAN AMERICAN OWNED
- B. NATIONWIDE INTERPRETER RESOURCE, INC.
101 PLAZA REAL SOUTH, SUITE 207
BOCA RATON, FL 33436
OWNER/OFFICER: JUNE B. BACKER, PRESIDENT
- C. SIGNTALK, LLC
1663 E. 17TH STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11229
OWNER/OFFICER: JOSEPH GELIEBTER, MANAGER
LOCAL OFFICE
4101 PINE TREE DRIVE, SUITE 1219
MIAMI BEACH, FL 33140

GROUP 2 – School Board Meeting, MDCPS Employees, Parents:

- A. IU, LLC DBA ACD **MWBE**
10242 N.W. 47TH STREET, SUITE 10
SUNRISE, FL 33351
OWNER/OFFICER: SHAMROZE SAYED, COO
ASIAN AMERICAN OWNED

- B. NATIONWIDE INTERPRETER RESOURCE, INC.
101 PLAZA REAL SOUTH, SUITE 207
BOCA RATON, FL 33436
OWNER/OFFICER: JUNE B. BACKER, PRESIDENT

- C. SIGNTALK, LLC
1663 E. 17TH STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11229
OWNER/OFFICER: JOSEPH GELIEBTER, MANAGER
LOCAL OFFICE
4101 PINE TREE DRIVE, SUITE 1219
MIAMI BEACH, FL 33140

GROUP 3 - Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) Communications:

- A. IU, LLC DBA ACD **MWBE**
10242 N.W. 47TH STREET, SUITE 10
SUNRISE, FL 33351
OWNER/OFFICER: SHAMROZE SAYED, COO
ASIAN AMERICAN OWNED

- B. NATIONWIDE INTERPRETER RESOURCE, INC.
101 PLAZA REAL SOUTH, SUITE 207
BOCA RATON, FL 33436
OWNER/OFFICER: JUNE B. BACKER, PRESIDENT

- C. SIGNTALK, LLC
1663 E. 17TH STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11229
OWNER/OFFICER: JOSEPH GELIEBTER, MANAGER
LOCAL OFFICE
4101 PINE TREE DRIVE, SUITE 1219
MIAMI BEACH, FL 33140

- D. TRUSTED TRANSLATIONS, INC. **MWBE**
66 W FLAGLER ST, SUITE 1200
MIAMI, FL 33130
OWNER/OFFICER: RICHARD ESTEVEZ, PRESIDENT
HISPANIC AMERICAN OWNED

2. **AUTHORIZE** Procurement Management Services to purchase up to a total estimated amount of \$7,500,000, for the initial contract term of three (3) years, and an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000, for each subsequent one (1) year extension period(s). Board authorization of this recommendation does not mean the amounts shown will be expended.

RS/cm