

Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 15-095 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING THE CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: SAFE, HEALTHY AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

Founded in 1999, the Children's Bereavement Center (CBC) has been serving those in our community who have suffered the death of a loved one for over 15 years. As a non-profit, 501(c) (3) corporation, the Children's Bereavement Center is the ONLY comprehensive, multicultural, community based bereavement support, education, and resource center in South Florida.

For the past 16 years, the CBC has provided FREE weekly Peer Support Groups for children (kindergarten through young adult) as well as concurrent support groups for parents and caregivers. The CBC has expanded through a collaboration with VITAS Healthcare and now has four CBC program sites for children and families throughout Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Groups are open to anyone who has lost a parent, sibling, grandparent, relative, or friend as a result of illness, accident, suicide, or homicide. Losses can be recent or in years past.

Losing a loved one can be an emotionally overwhelming, and often isolating, experience. With the support of peers and community, individuals can find a healthy adjustment to life after a loss. At the Children's Bereavement Center, grieving children, adolescents, young adults and their families come together to share their experience and find support in others. This recognition of the Children's Bereavement Center, is in order for their service, dedication, and contributions to the Miami-Dade community.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. SUSIE V. CASTILLO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Children's Bereavement Center.

**RESOLUTION NO. 15-095  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING THE CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT CENTER**

**WHEREAS**, the Children's Bereavement Center (CBC), founded in 1999, has been serving those in our community who have suffered the death of a loved one for over 15 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the CBC, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) corporation, is the only comprehensive, multicultural, community based bereavement support, education, and resource center in South Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, for the past 16 years, the CBC has provided FREE weekly Peer Support Groups for children to help them in coping with the loss of a loved one; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past year alone over 1300 participants have attended CBC sessions, and the organization continues to add an average of over 70 new participants each month; and

**WHEREAS**, the services provided by the Children's Bereavement Center, help grieving children, adolescents, and their families, find a healthy adjustment to life after a loss; and

**WHEREAS**, the Children's Bereavement Center is deserving of recognition for its service and contribution to the Miami-Dade community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Children's Bereavement Center is an exceptional source of emotional support for the children and families of our community who have experienced the tragedy of losing a loved one;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 15-095 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing the Children's Bereavement Center.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

**Presented this eighteenth day of November, A.D. 2015**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary