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Office of Academics and Transformation

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS WITH SIX COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO OPERATE PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$4,465,476 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2017, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018, CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2017-2018 DISTRICT BUDGET**

**COMMITTEE: ACADEMICS, EVALUATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

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

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into contractual agreements with six community agencies to provide extensive educational and/or therapeutic services to a unique population of children with disabilities which includes cocaine-exposed, Down Syndrome, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder as well as visual and hearing impairments.

Each agency will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the programs, facilities, staff assistance with the identification and placement of children, staff development training, and administrative support. In support of these services, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) will provide assistance with the identification and placement of eligible children and monitoring to ensure compliance with applicable laws and rules.

During the 2016-2017 school year, facility reviews, site visits, and monitoring of children's records and program delivery models by District staff found the programs to be effective in providing early intervention services and to be in compliance with the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.

An exception to School Board Policy 6320 regarding bids or Request for Proposals should be granted as these six community agencies are providing educational and related services to support students with significant disabilities.

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Funding for each agency is based on program delivery models as outlined below:

Agency	# of Students	Funding Amount
Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida, Inc. dba The ARC of South Florida	A maximum of 149 B-2 children	in an amount not to exceed \$1,509,701
Easter Seals South Florida, Inc.	A maximum of 112 B-2 children	in an amount not to exceed \$1,088,556
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	A maximum of 10 B-2 children A maximum of 20 PK-ESE children	in an amount not to exceed \$120,734 In an amount not to exceed \$235,809
University of Miami Debbie Institute	A maximum of 80 B-2 children	In an amount not to exceed \$672,280
University of Miami, Linda Ray Intervention Center/Department of Psychology	A maximum of 60 B-2 children	In an amount not to exceed \$476,072
United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., dba United Community Options, Inc.	A maximum of 26 B-2 children A maximum of 5 K-12 children	in an amount not to exceed \$266,324 in an amount not to exceed \$96,000

Funding for these services will come from 80% of the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) generated from the Florida Education Finance Program based on the level of services needed for each child listed in the Individualized Family Support Plan or Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The remaining 20% of the FTE will cover ancillary services/costs.

The appropriation for this item for Birth-to-Two (B-2) and prekindergarten programs for children with disabilities will be included in the General Fund of the 2017-2018 Tentative Budget under Fund 100000, Funds Center 1901300, Program 68400000, Function 521700, and Commitment 531000 to be recommended for adoption in July 2017, contingent upon approval of the 2017-2018 District Budget.

The appropriation for this item for the K-12 program for students with disabilities will be included in the General Fund of the 2017-2018 Tentative Budget under Fund 100000, Funds Center 1973100, Program 68400000, Function 521700, and Commitment 531000 to be recommended for adoption in July 2017, contingent upon approval of the 2017-2018 District Budget.

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

1. enter into contractual agreements with six community agencies to operate programs for children with disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$4,465,476 effective August 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, contingent upon approval of the 2017-2018 District Budget, as follows:
  - Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida, Inc., dba The ARC of South Florida in an amount not to exceed \$1,509,701;
  - Easter Seals South Florida, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,088,556;
  - Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$356,543;
  - University of Miami Debbie Institute, in an amount not exceed \$672,280;
  - University of Miami, Linda Ray Intervention Center/Department of Psychology, in an amount not to exceed \$476,072;
  - United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., dba United Community Options, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$362,324 (K-12 contract in an amount not to exceed \$96,000 and B-2 contract in an amount not to exceed \$266,324); and
2. utilize an exception stated within School Board Policy 6320, based on the provision of educational and health related services to support students with significant disabilities.

The appropriations for this item will be included in the General Fund of the 2017-2018 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2017, contingent upon approval of the 2017-2018 District Budget.

MI/MCA/MD:sr