

School Operations

Valtena G. Brown, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE THE FOUNDATION FOR NEW EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOR THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN'S EVIDENCE-BASED REFERRAL AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED & EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

On November 19, 2018, The Children's Trust (Trust) passed a resolution authorizing \$880,000 for an 12-month contract renewal expanding support of the referral and family case management component of Together for Children (TFC). Miami-Dade County (County), on November 21, 2019, also authorized \$167,898 continuation funding. This item authorizes the renewal of the Cooperative Agreement among partners including the Trust, the County, the District and Foundation for New Education Initiatives (FNEI) to maximize systemic coordination/implementation:

- Thirty-nine elementary and K-8 schools with the high chronic absenteeism rates in the twenty-three zip codes will participate in the Together for Children iAttend/HERO Truancy Prevention Program.
- Students between the ages of 11 and 16, living in the twenty-three identified zip codes and facing attendance, behavior and academic challenges will have a chance to participate in a service-based assessment and referral-based program facilitated by the Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services Department (JSD). Employing data drawn from the District's Early Warning Indicator System, M-DCPS, JSD, and Service Providers as needed, work closely together to support and develop a Service Plan to address the individualized needs of the child and/or his/her family. Interventions may include but will not be limited to: evidenced-based family therapy models, individual/group counseling, tutoring, mentoring, employment and appropriate out-of-school programming. One full-time interventionist funded by the County will act as liaison between JSD and TFC School Champions on behalf of School Operations.
- M-DCPS's One Stop Educational and Community Service Center (One Stop Centers) partners with JSD, DJJ, the Department of Children and Families and numerous community-based organizations to provide transitional support for at-risk, high-promise youth with a focus on strengthened educational placement and decreased recidivism rates. Three Wrap Around Service Specialists work with DJJ in implementing the Electronic Educational Exit Plan (EEEP) for students referred by DJJ's Commitment Program.

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Two of the three specialists are funded by the County. Through the One Stop Transition Database, the Wrap Around Service Specialist monitors follow-up and case management, working directly with school counselors and service providers.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorizes the Superintendent execute the renewal of Cooperative Agreement to include the Foundation for New Education Initiatives and Miami-Dade County to implement the evidence-based referral and family engagement system, as well as amendments, extensions, and renewals of such agreements and documents to implement the program; and exercise termination, waiver, and other provisions set forth therein.