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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 \$5,272,146 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021, CONTINGENT UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2020-2021 DISTRICT BUDGET**

**COMMITTEE:           ACADEMICS,   INNOVATION,   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 2019-2020 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.

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

<b>Agency</b>	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida, Inc. dba The ARC of South Florida	Up to 149 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$1,449,649
Easter Seals South Florida, Inc.	Up to 95 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$923,380
Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Up to 15 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$147,512
	Up to 25 PK-ESE children	Not to exceed \$285,113
	Up to 10 K-1 children	Not to exceed \$145,000
University of Miami Debbie Institute	Up to 80 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$836,510
	Up to 35 PK-2 children	Not to exceed \$496,395
University of Miami, Linda Ray Intervention Center/Department of Psychology	Up to 50 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$454,430
United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., dba United Community Options, Inc.	Up to 51 Birth-2 children	Not to exceed \$495,872
	Up to 2 K-12 children	Not to exceed \$38,285

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 2020-2021 Tentative Budget under Fund 100000, Funds Center 1901300, Program 68400000, Function 521700, and Commitment 531000 to be recommended for adoption in July 2020, contingent upon approval of the 2020-2021 District Budget.

The appropriation for this item for the PK-12 program for students with disabilities will be included in the General Fund of the 2020-2021 Tentative Budget under Fund 100000, Funds Center 1973100, Program 68400000, Function 521700, and Commitment 531000 to be recommended for adoption in July 2019, contingent upon approval of the 2020-2021 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 \$5,206,930 effective August 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, contingent upon approval of the 2020-2021 District Budget, as follows:
  - Association for Retarded Citizens of South Florida, Inc., dba The ARC of South Florida in an amount not to exceed \$1,449,649;
  - Easter Seals South Florida, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$923,380;
  - Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$512,409 (B-2 contract in an amount not to exceed \$147,512; PK-ESE in an amount not to exceed \$285,113 and Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade in an amount not to exceed \$145,000);
  - University of Miami Debbie Institute, in an amount not exceed \$1,332,905 (B-2 contract in an amount not to exceed \$836,510 and PK-2nd grade contract in an amount not to exceed \$496,395);
  - University of Miami, Linda Ray Intervention Center/Department of Psychology, in an amount not to exceed \$454,430;
  - United Cerebral Palsy Association of Miami, Inc., dba United Community Options, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$534,157 (B-2 contract in an amount not to exceed \$495,872 and K-12 contract in an amount not to exceed \$38,285); 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 2020-2021 Tentative Budget to be recommended for adoption in July 2020, contingent upon approval of the 2020-2021 District Budget.

Authorization is also granted to the Superintendent to make adjustments to contracted amounts based on any State changes to the Base Student Allocation.

MI/MCA/MD:sr