

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

**SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO WAIVE PROCESS FOR COMPETITIVE PURCHASE OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY AMERICORPS GRANT**

**COMMITTEE: FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONAL PRACTICES**

At the Board meeting of August 18, 2021, the Board voted to require a competitive bidding process for purchases of goods and services exceeding \$50,000 single and \$100,000 aggregate, when utilizing funding provided by The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and related COVID-19 federal stimulus funds.

In FY 2021, Americorps received federal funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The mission of CNCS is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. AmeriCorps' federal grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps' members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions/practices to strengthen communities. Americorps selected Up2Us Inc. (UP2US) through a competitive process, where benchmarks and performance metrics were established. Therefore, it is considered impractical to undergo another competitive process inasmuch as UP2US is the sole provider of the sports portion of the CNCS Focus Area of Education award, employing UP2US Coaches. The District seeks to enter into a contract with UP2US for these services. The program will subsidize the cost of teacher salaries that are recruited to work with this program. The remaining funds are budgeted to be spent utilizing ESSER dollars.

The District will benefit from the services as follows:

- Cost sharing for each position (to M-DCPS)
  - Full-Time Positions-1700 hours @ a cost of \$10,000.00 per position
  - Half-Time Positions-900 hours @ a cost of \$5,000.00 per position
  - Quarter-Time Positions-450 hours @ a cost of \$3,000.00 per position
- Remaining costs including Benefits and Health Insurance will be paid by UP2US via AmeriCorps
- Assist with addressing staff shortages for afterschool care, academic, and enrichment programs
- Opportunity to provide students with more enrichment activities
- Volunteers receive training in mentoring strategies and Sports-Based YouthDevelopment
- The organization will actively recruit and train volunteer coaches
- Volunteers will adhere to District guidelines for clearance

Fund Source  
ESSER

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

1. **GRANT** the request for waiver for competitive purchase of services, during the term of the bid, with an effective date of August 15, 2022 through August 14, 2024, by mutual agreement, between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and the successful bidders, as follows:

UP2US INC  
520 8<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE 201D  
NEW YORK, NY 10018  
OWNER/OFFICER: PAUL CACCAMO

2. **AUTHORIZE** Procurement Management Services to enter into a contract with UP2US for the total estimated amount of \$1,637,176. Board authorization of this recommendation does not mean the amount shown will be expended.