

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Renewal of Lease Agreement between the School Board of Broward County, Florida, and Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.

Additional Background Information:

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, has partnered with Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc., (Hispanic Unity) for 20 years. Hispanic Unity is a non-profit organization that offers and provides over 21 services to the community in three languages - Creole, Spanish, and English.

Hispanic Unity's main focus is economic development and civic engagement. Other services are immigration referrals and services, housing, finance, income tax preparation, employment, dental clinic, healthcare services, lifelong learning classes, early childhood literacy development for 3-5 year olds, mental health counseling and referral, HIV/AIDS counseling, testing and linkages, afterschool tutorials for elementary and middle school aged students and community services, which include 211 (a community hotline), citizenship, and child care. More than 10,000 families and students benefit from these services each year. In 2007-2008, Hispanic Unity purchased the building of which the District currently leases 2,417 square feet. Hispanic Unity indicated it spent over \$500,000 to renovate the building. Included in this cost was \$33,158 it obtained as Community Development Block Grant funds from the City of Hollywood to help defray the cost of making the restrooms utilized by the School District compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The District contributed an additional \$19,000 towards this endeavor.

The District through Community School South offers day and evening ESOL classes and assists in the recruitment of students to take advantage of the services provided by Hispanic Unity. The District's day and evening classes are offered Monday through Thursday for two semesters and a summer term. The day program runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The evening program runs from 5 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. The District receives FTE funding for up to 245 students per day. Broward Community Schools also provide family literacy services through The School Board of Broward County, Florida's, Family Literacy Program to all enrolled ESOL students and their families. The District currently services over 200 families.

The monthly rental cost is \$3,715.71. The yearly cost is \$44,588.52. Community School South also pays \$15,909.27 annually for part-time custodial support, \$1,379.06 annually for custodial supplies, \$2,428.00 annually for instructional materials and supplies,

\$5,170.80 annually for electric costs, and \$3,156.00 annually for telephone and internet costs. The total revenue for the 2013-2014 year was \$119,436.00. Total student enrollment was 624 students for the 2013-2014 year. The partnership with Hispanic Unity is imperative due to the fact that the students are comfortable utilizing the services, enrolling in local/neighborhood classes, and are familiar with the program services available in their neighborhood.

As earlier stated, Hispanic Unity is a full service center which includes a 211 Community hotline, where Broward County Public Schools through Community School South provides the educational component to adults and their children through ESOL and Family Literacy services. The partnership with Hispanic Unity coupled with Community School South's ESOL and Family Literacy Services makes it a strong and efficient full service center; Also, more than 10,000 families and students benefit from the services offered by Hispanic Unity of Florida each year. Feedback received by the Program staff indicates to remove the educational component from the Hispanic Unity site would cripple it as a full service center; and again, the full service model that is in place at Hispanic Unity allows for them to have all of their educational, social and 211 needs in a one-stop facility.

The current Lease Agreement between The School Board of Broward County, Florida, and Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc., was effective June 1, 2014, and expires on May 31, 2015. As directed by the Board, all leases go through a comparability study including a review of comparable leases, available administrative sites, and possible relocation of programs in nearby schools. There are no administrative sites or schools in the vicinity of Hispanic Unity where students can be redirected. Also, the students in this community have transportation barriers. Therefore, the lease is being brought for the Board's consideration at this time, for a year, to allow for review of potential District sites that provide similar services. The lease is consistent with the District's due diligence regarding facilities leased by the District. The comparable study of sites are depicted in attached Exhibit 3. Not less than six (6) months from approval date, District staff will share with Board Members potential District sites for relocation consideration.