

Executive Summary

Renewal of License Agreement for an additional Three (3) Years with the Children's Bereavement Center, Inc.

The Children's Bereavement Center, Inc. (CBC, Inc.) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in South Florida. The mission of the CBC, Inc. is to provide free of cost peer support groups to children, teens, adults, and families after a loss due to death. Founded in 1999, the CBC, Inc. has expanded from one site in Coconut Grove to all three counties of South Florida providing 10 support group locations and servicing over 1,500 individuals annually.

In the aftermath of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High (MSD) mass school shooting on February 14, 2017, the CBC, Inc. states that it has been working with community partners to provide ongoing, long-term grief support for the Parkland and Coral Springs communities; with the goal of establishing a grief support group site within the Parkland community, the CBC, Inc. Thereafter, the CBC, Inc. will be hosting its weekly grief support groups at Heron Heights Elementary School, which is in the City of Parkland.

This site will also provide a separate grief support group for educational professionals affected by the MSD School shooting. In support of this work, the CBC, Inc. states that the American Psychological Association released an article stating that long-term support is critical in the well-being of individuals affected by a mass shooting. Since the CBC, Inc. provides all of its services free of cost to its participants, the CBC, Inc. is seeking to renew its reciprocity agreement with The School Board of Broward County, Florida (SBBC), in which the SBBC provides the CBC, Inc. with space at Heron Heights Elementary School free of charge. Given the CBC's, Inc. 20-year track record of success and position with the South Florida community as being the only full-family grief support group organization, the CBC, Inc. believes that a reciprocal partnership with the SBBC is imperative in meeting the long-term social and emotional needs of the Parkland and Coral Springs communities in the wake of the MSD mass school shooting tragedy.

The CBC's, Inc. model of grief support is grounded in theoretical literature on grief, bereavement, and positive psychology. Participants who attend the CBC's, Inc. groups, meet weekly from 6:30-8:30pm. During that time, participants are provided a free pizza dinner followed by a 90-minute grief support group. The meeting at each location, consists of a minimum of five (5) groups which are grouped together by the age of the participants. These groups include lower elementary, upper elementary, middle school, high school, and adult. The separation of groups by age range allows for developmentally appropriate grief support. When needed, the CBC, Inc. also arrange group meetings in Spanish and Creole. The CBC, Inc. support groups do not follow a particular curriculum; instead, it focuses on the participants' current social and emotional needs.

Unlike other grief support groups, the CBC's, Inc. model of grief support is unique for several reasons. First, its support groups include all types of loss due to death (i.e., accident, illness, homicide, and suicide) and does not separate groups based on type of loss. Second, participants are invited to participate in CBC, Inc. grief support groups at any time after the loss of a loved one. Third, participants are welcome to participate in CBC's, Inc. support groups for however long the participants choose, and CBC, Inc. does not limit the number of support groups participants can attend. Finally, the CBC, Inc. states that it is the only grief support organization in South Florida that provides a full-family model of grief support. The participation of the full family in the CBC, Inc. grief support groups offers a building of cohesion within the family which allows for continued, ongoing support throughout the week and after their participation at the CBC, Inc.

Functionally, the CBC, Inc. states that it operates at several administrative levels which ensures the highest quality delivery of CBC, Inc. support group services. For example, a minimum of two group facilitators are embedded within each group. One of these facilitators is a community volunteer, who has received a mandatory initial training provided by the CBC, Inc. Clinical Director, Dr. Daniel Sheridan. The second facilitator holds a minimum of a master's degree in a mental health field (e.g., mental health counseling, social work, psychology, etc.) and also has participated in the mandatory CBC, Inc. training. For children participants, the CBC, Inc. also provides art and music specialists.

Facilitators at each CBC, Inc. location reports to a site coordinator who manages site operations, completes administrative duties, and provides first contact with support group participants. Site coordinators also provide a one-hour supervision each week for all staff and volunteers. This site coordinator must be a licensed mental health professional. All site coordinators report to the CBC, Inc. Clinical Director, Dr. Daniel Sheridan, who is a licensed psychologist.

This renewal of the License Agreement extends the License Agreement for an additional three (3) years, provides the updated costs to CBC, Inc. for the continued 3% annual increases to the In-Kind Services value and Operating Expenses, keeping all other existing terms and conditions in the License Agreement, as called for in Section 2.15 "Renewal Option". The License Agreement with the CBC, Inc. is an In-Kind agreement type which entails that in lieu of rental payment for the space provided for use by the CBC, Inc.'s use at Heron Heights Elementary School (Section 2.05), the CBC, Inc. will provide documentation (i.e. personnel assigned by the CBC, Inc. to deliver CBC, Inc. services called for in the Licensed Agreement, and as related) to SBBC that is equivalent to such monthly/annual rental payments, prior to commencement of the License Agreement and at stipulated periods annually.

The base rental fee for the Licensed Facilities is based upon the cost to rent nine (9) classrooms and cafeteria space as called for in the Fee Schedule contained in School Board Policy 1341. Per School Board Policy 1341, the monthly base rental fee shall be \$2,546.16 per month. CBC, Inc. shall expend at least \$2,546.16 per month, equivalent to \$30,553.92 annually to hire and pay CBC, Inc. personnel, who will be housed at the Licensed Facilities during the hours of operation specified herein and be assigned to deliver services at the School. The base rental fee cited shall increase annually by three percent (3%). If the amount shown in the document is lower than the base rental fee due, CBC, Inc. shall take corrective action to make up the difference prior to commencement of the term of the License Agreement. Thereafter, CBC, Inc. shall annually provide said documentation to the Superintendent or designee (Director, Facility Planning & Real Estate Department) within ninety (90) days after the beginning of each school year for Broward County Public Schools (BCPS). CBC, Inc. agrees that if the corrective action stated herein is not taken, it shall pay SBBC the difference between the annual amounts funded and expended at the Licensed facilities for In-Kind Services and the annual market value of the base rental fee for the Licensed Facilities within thirty (30) days of demand for payment. CBC, Inc. agrees that the License Agreement shall immediately terminate if such payment is not timely made and that CBC, Inc. will immediately vacate the Licensed Facilities no later than thirty (30) days thereafter. To this end, the CBC, Inc. provided documentation to BCPS staff, which said documentation depicts the CBC, Inc.'s budget for the administrative and operational cost to support its services called for in the License Agreement is \$159,068.00 for Fiscal Year 2020/21.

It should also be noted that that this In-Kind agreement type, requires that the CBC, Inc. shall pay its proportionate share of the operational expenses at Heron Height Elementary School, which at the onset of this term renewal of License Agreement will be 428.64 per year, or 35.72 per month. All payments of the operational costs will be made and paid on the first day of each calendar month by CBC, Inc. to SBBC via the Facility Planning and Real Estate at the address noted in Section 2.37 of the License Agreement. The operational expenses will be paid by CBC, Inc. in twelve (12) equal monthly payments and the payments will be reconciled annually against the actual costs incurred by SBBC for operating the School during the past twelve (12) months. Alternatively, CBC, Inc. has the option to pay the total annual operational expenses due in one lump sum. Any applicable credits due to the CBC, Inc., for payments made by CBC, Inc. to SBBC during the past twelve (12) months that are above the actual expenses incurred by SBBC for operating the School during the past twelve (12) months will be applied appropriately as credit to CBC's Inc. operating expenses payments. Likewise, payments made by CBC, Inc. during the past twelve (12) months to SBBC if below the actual expenses incurred by SBBC for operating the School during the past twelve (12) months will be paid to SBBC within 30 days upon receipt of invoicing from SBBC regarding the same. The operational expenses cited herein shall increase annually by three percent (3%). BCPS staff will make every effort to provide CBC, Inc. with any forecasts or advance notice of changes to operating expenses which could significantly impact the payments required by CBC, Inc.

As stated herein, the CBC expressed its desire for this License Agreement to continue; hence the scheduling of this formal School Board action. Also, it should be noted that agreements are continually scheduled for School Board formal action to ensure their renewal of license agreement prior to their expiration date as desired by the outside party. Please be aware that even if the License Agreement is renewed and becomes effective, CBC will still not be given access to utilize the pertinent facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This position is consistent with correspondence dated March 13, 2020, that was transmitted to all lessees of School Board facilities which stated as follows: ***"However, in order to mitigate the effects of the outbreak of the COVID-19, the Superintendent of Schools, Robert Runcie, has declared effective March 23, 2020, no Lessees shall be permitted to access facilities they currently lease from the SBBC until further notice"***, which is still in effect.