

## YMCA of South Florida, Inc. - 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers

### North Miami Elementary and Paul Laurence Dunbar K-8 Center

3.1. **PROJECT ABSTRACT/SUMMARY.** The overall goal of the YMCA of South Florida's 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program is to provide academic and personal enrichment through afterschool to 60 students (30 at each site) in kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> grade attending ***North Miami Elementary and Paul Laurence Dunbar K-8 Center*** located in Miami-Dade County. Housed at each site, the program offers daily homework assistance and academic enrichment, project-based learning, STEM, arts, service learning, nutrition and physical education. Educational opportunities, activities and enrichment are offered to adult family members and the community. Educational opportunities, activities and enrichment are offered to adult family members and the community. The Afterschool program operates Monday-Friday from 1:55pm-6:05pm for 180 days during the school year at each site, and from 8am-6pm in the summer at North Miami Elementary School for 34 days (10/1/19 – 9/30/20). Objectives include improvement in English Language Arts, math and science performance to satisfactory level or above, in third-grade promotion rate, in physical fitness, in prosocial behavior, in healthy eating knowledge and in emotional regulation.

3.2. **COMMUNITY NOTICE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT.** **3.2.a. *Community Notice.*** The YMCA of South Florida (the Y) proactively informed the community about its intent to submit an application for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC in partnership with the identified schools. The notice was placed prominently on the Y's website – a professional site the community frequents, particularly families interested in enrolling their children in afterschool programs. The notice was also posted in the classified section of the local Miami Herald and Sun-Sentinel newspapers from July 3-12, 2019 and posted on social media including Facebook and Instagram. Furthermore, the Y's Youth Development leadership team solidified partnership agreements and sent certified letters to twelve (12) identified private schools located within

five-mile radius of the target schools, notifying them of the intent and engage/consult with them through focus groups to design the program so that the needs of eligible participants can be met. Parents, private schools, and other stakeholders were also invited to focus groups to solicit their input. In addition to posting the notice of intent and inviting feedback and questions, the final submitted application will be made available on the Y's website, this providing the community access to the application.

**3.2.b. Needs Assessment.** This proposal was developed as a result of a **comprehensive needs assessment** that began in the 2018-19 school year, where the Y staff began working closely with the two schools to identify the unmet needs and gaps in services of the students and families. The needs assessment consisted of: 1) a series of meetings with school leadership, Miami Dade Public Schools (MDPS) district administrators, teachers and Y youth development leadership team; 2) review and analysis of the School Improvement Plans (SIP); 3) review and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data from a number of sources including the US Census; Florida Department of Education's (FDOE) EDStats, School Grade Federal Index, School Environment Safety Incident Reports, and School Attendance and Suspension reports; and surveys results from students, parents, and stakeholders; 3) an analysis of affordable afterschool programming currently available to students that offer standards-based academic enrichment; and 4) focus groups with admin, teachers, students and parents of both the district schools and service location and identified neighboring private schools. This led to the decision to apply for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC to enhance current services and address unmet academic and personal enrichment needs of students and families at North Miami Elementary and Paul Laurence Dunbar K-12 Center.

**Involvement of Community and Private Schools:** Each of the twelve (12) identified private schools, within five miles of the program sites, received an invitation via email and US postal service to participate in a series of focus groups to assess their needs and follows a best practice method to involve private schools in the design of the program.