DESCRIPTION OF INTENDED SINGLE SOURCE PURCHASE (PUR 7776)

AGENCY: Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

TITLE: Social-Emotional & Preparedness Educational Materials
Short description of the commodity or service desired: Materials will be specifically aligned to support the social-emotional and resiliency needs of children and early learning providers.

CONTACT
Name: Kerry Gaylord
Address: 600 8th Avenue West, Suite 100, Palmetto, FL 34221
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Internal tracking number, if any: NA

Date posted: 11/4/26 Last day for receipt of information: 11/24/26

This description of commodities or contractual services intended for purchase from a single source is posted in accordance with Sections 120.57(3) and 287.057(3), Florida Statutes (F.S.), and will remain posted for a period of at least 15 business days.

Commodity or Contractual Service Required (commodity or United National Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), manufacturer, model, and description, as appropriate):
Highlights Book Bundles, Kindness Connection/Early Learning Kits, custom-created High Five magazines.

Quantity or Term (as appropriate):
1/1/27 - 12/31/27

Requestor (division, bureau, office, individual, as appropriate):
Early Learning Coalition of Manatee County, Inc.

Performance and/or Design Requirements (e.g. intended use, function or application, compatibility, requirements; reference to policy, rule, statute or other act of the Legislature, etc., as appropriate):
Kindness connection kits and accompanying book bundles and magazines are designed to support early learning practitioners in fostering positive classroom environments while helping children strengthen social-emotional learning skills such as empathy, cooperation, conflict resolution, and resilience.

Intended Single Source:
Highlights Education, Inc.

Estimated Dollar Amount:
$250,000

Justification for single source acquisition (what is necessary and unique about the product, service or source; steps taken to confirm unavailability of competition, as appropriate):
Highlights Education, Inc. is the exclusive provider and publisher of Highlights Kindness Book Bundles, Kindness Connection Kits, and High Five magazines. The proprietary nature of these materials and their integration with tailored professional development services makes them unavailable through any other vendor.

Approved By (names & titles, as appropriate, e.g., requestor, requestor management, information systems, budget, purchasing):
Darrell King, Chief Executive Officer

Prospective vendors are requested to provide information regarding their ability to supply the commodities or contractual services described. If it is determined in writing by the agency, after reviewing any information received from prospective vendors, that the commodities or contractual services are available only from a single source, the agency shall provide notice of its intended decision to enter a single-source purchase contract in the manner specified in Rule 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, and section 120.57(3), F.S.