NOTICE OF INTENDED DECISION
TO ENTER INTO A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT
(PUR 7778)

This Notice of Intended Decision to Enter into a Single Source Contract is posted in accordance with Rule 60A-1.045, Florida Administrative Code, and section 287.057(3), Florida Statutes.

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
Telephone: 941-212-4991
Email: kgaylord@elc-manatee.org

Internal tracking number, if any: NA
DMS Single Source number, if applicable:

Date posted: 11/25/26 Time posted: 8:00AM

Commodity or Contractual Service (commodity or United Nation Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC), manufacturer, model, and description, as appropriate):
Highlights Kindness Book Bundles, Kindness Connection Kits and custom-created High Five magazines for early learning practitioners.

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

Performance and/or Design Requirements (intended use, function or application, compatibility, requirements; reference to policy, rule, statute or other act of the Legislature, 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.

Price:
250,000

Justification for Single Source Purchase (what is necessary and unique about the commodity, contractual 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 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

Failure to file a protest within the time prescribed in Section 120.57(3), Florida Statutes, or failure to file a bond or other security within the time allowed for filing a bond, shall constitute a waiver of proceedings under Chapter 120, Florida Statutes. Protests may be filed with the agency by:

Mail: Attn: Kerry Gaylord 600 8th Avenue West, Suite 100, Palmetto, FL 34221

Email: kgaylord@elc-manatee.org

Fax: