

Arsht Research on Ethics and Community Grant

Ethical issues involved in research and the delivery of supportive services seeking to promote the psychosocial well-being of undocumented, unaccompanied immigrant youth

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Abstract

This proposal seeks funds to support the ongoing provision of services to undocumented, unaccompanied immigrant youth housed in two Miami area shelters. These funds will support services already underway, such as weekly positive youth development groups and the collection of individual children's life narratives. However, they will also be used to explicitly tease out and wrestle with the ethical issues involved in said service delivery. The primary ethical issues we seek to investigate are as follows:

- (1) The use of tax dollars to provide services to individuals in the United States without proper documentation
- (2) The provision of supportive services in a time-limited manner that may result in individuals uncovering and/or discovering issues that they then may not have the ongoing emotional and social support to navigate through
- (3) Interdisciplinary professional partnerships and the incongruence of different professionals and their respective orientations and priorities and the decision-making processes related to compromise.

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