FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 7, 2014 Contact: Jon Erik Alvarez <u>jalvarez@marlins.com</u> 305-480-1395

MARLINS HOST SECOND MARLINS AYUDAN BEEP BALL CLASSIC AT MARLINS PARK ON TUESDAY, JULY 8

Marlins intern class to invite Miami Lighthouse Students for beep baseball game

MIAMI – Media is invited to attend the Second Annual Marlins Ayudan Beep Ball Classic held at Marlins Park on Tuesday, July 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, a 2014 Marlins Foundation Charity Partner, will join the Marlins organization for the event as 35 Miami Lighthouse blind and visually impaired teenage summer camp students and 35 Marlins interns, volunteering through Marlins Ayudan, will team up and compete in Beep Baseball.

The 2014 Beep Ball Classic marks the fifth annual Marlins Ayudan Intern event. Competition is expected to be heated. Three games will be hosted simultaneously at Marlins Park, with one taking place on the main diamond. The teams are comprised of a mix of Miami Lighthouse blind and visually impaired teenage students and Marlins interns who will play the game blindfolded.

Beep ball is an adaptive version of America's favorite pastime for the blind and visually impaired. There are some differences from regular baseball. There is no second base. First and third bases, four foot padded cylinders with speakers, are placed 100 feet down their respective lines and 10 feet off the foul line. This is to prevent a runner from colliding with a defensive fielder. The bases contain sounding units that give off a buzzing sound when activated. The batter does not know which one will be turned on. When the ball is hit, the base operator activates one of the bases. The runner must identify the correct buzzing base and run to it before the ball is fielded by a defensive player. If the runner is safe, a run is scored.

Following the games, awards will be given out to players and teams who exhibit most team spirit, sportsmanship, best team name, best team chant, and wackiest team. The competitive and playful nature of the Beep Ball Classic brings to life Miami Lighthouse for the Blind's slogan – 'It's Possible to See Without SightTM'.

###

About Marlins Ayudan

Marlins Ayudan (Spanish for "help") is the signature outreach initiative of the Miami Marlins. The purpose of Marlins Ayudan is to provide a sustainable corps of volunteers willing and ready to effectuate positive change in the South Florida community. It is the fabric of the Club's corporate culture and engages every front office employee with schools and charities throughout South Florida. The goal of Marlins Ayudan is to leave a lasting legacy through impactful service activities that tackle the community's most pressing needs. The three-tier Ayudan methodology consists of organizational service days, team events and individual volunteer opportunities. Since its inception in 2010, Marlins Ayudan has contributed over 22,000 hours of service and established partnerships and traditions of giving that inspire employees to pursue their passions and contribute their time and talents year-round.



About Marlins Foundation

The Marlins Foundation supports the Charity Partners of the Miami Marlins through philanthropy and service. The Foundation is committed to improving the lives of our youth through education, the arts and baseball, with a focus on children with special needs. The funds raised by the Foundation provide unique experiences for kids in our schools, parks and on the water. The Foundation community partnerships and outreach efforts demonstrate the Marlins' leadership in corporate responsibility and civic engagement.

For additional information please visit www.marlinsfoundation.com.

About Miami Lighthouse for the Blind

Established in 1931, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired is the oldest and largest private agency in Florida to serve people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired. It has earned five consecutive 4-star ratings, the highest rating possible, from Charity Navigator placing the organization among the top 4% of non-profits for fiscal responsibility in the U.S. Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired serves 10,000 program participants annually; 14-fold increase since 2006. In all Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired teachings, it enforces that - it's possible to see without sightTM.