

Mission Statement

To provide vision rehabilitation, eye health services and education that promote independence, to collaborate with and train professionals, and to conduct research in related fields.

Miami Lighthouse Celebrates 85th Anniversary at the Historic Biltmore Hotel

Three hundred of Miami's leading philanthropists and elected officials spent an extraordinary evening on Saturday, January 28th, enjoying cocktails provided by Bacardi and wine by El Carajo. Presenting sponsor for the evening was Northern Trust. The co-chairs of the celebration, Mr. and Mrs. Ramón Casas and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Nostro, were announced this past March at the Northern Trust pre-gala event. Entertainment was provided by Miami Lighthouse's nationally recognized student and instructor instrumentalists and vocalists.

The evening, commemorating our 85th year, highlighted Miami Lighthouse's beginning in 1931 during an era when Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become "knights for the blind in the crusade against darkness." In recognition of that important moment, CEO Virginia Jacko referred to an original letter from Helen Keller pertaining to a garden party that she attended. Ms. Jacko explained that funds were raised in those early years by holding garden parties attended by prominent Miamians such as Mrs. Charles Brickell, Mrs. Freeman Burdine, Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, Mrs. Charles Deering, Mrs. Harvey Firestone and Mrs. Hugh Matheson. The legacy of those formative years continues today, noted CEO Jacko, who recognized those in attendance as truly "knights for the blind."



Ana Cristina Regalado, Raquel Regalado, City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado, CEO Virginia Jacko and City of Miami Commissioner Frank Carollo



Board Chair Louis Nostro, Janet Nostro, Julia Beckham and Honorary Board Director Bill Beckham

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Of the approximately 8,000 charities evaluated each year by Charity Navigator, Miami Lighthouse is ranked among the top 1% in the nation and currently is the only nonprofit in Miami with nine consecutive 4-star ratings.



(continued from page 1)

The silent auction committee was chaired by Jackie Munilla. Corporate sponsors included Florida Power & Light, Florida Blue, Marlins Foundation, Comcast, Perry Ellis International, Gus Machado Ford, Walgreens, *The Miami Herald* and others. Laurie Jennings, WPLG-TV co-anchor, served as Mistress of Ceremonies; the keynote speaker was Miami-Dade County Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvalho.



Jorge and Jacquelyn Munilla, Olga and Charles Nielson



Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, Lisa Pisciotto and Michael Silva

Board of Directors

Current and Past Board Chairs at the 2016 Annual Board Meeting: Peter R. Harrison, Agustin Arellano, Jr., Charles J. Nielson, Sr., Donna Blaustein, Louis Nostro (Chair 2017-2018), Ramón Casas, Owen S. Freed and William L. Morrison



Board Chair (2015-2016) Ramón Casas presents the gavel to incoming Board Chair (2017-2018) Louis Nostro at our 2016 Annual Board Meeting


**MIAMI
LIGHTHOUSE**
*Celebrating 85 Years
of Hope, Confidence and Independence*

Chairman's Letter

Dear Friends of Miami Lighthouse,

In this issue of the Lantern you will read about exciting milestones celebrated by Miami Lighthouse since our last newsletter. From parents of our pre-K children, support staff at schools served by our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, students in our Music Program and adults in our rehabilitation programs you will learn how the services we provide make a real difference in the lives of the blind and visually impaired in our community and schoolchildren who cannot afford eye care.

Miami Lighthouse strives always for excellence in all things that contribute to the best client services and the future of vision rehabilitation and eye wellness in our community. As I begin my term as Chairman of the Board, I will continue to uphold those values as did my predecessor Ray Casas. Miami Lighthouse transforms the lives of people of all ages and now serves approximately 13,000 individuals annually. I am proud to be part of this effort. We thank our generous supporters and elected officials who enable Miami Lighthouse to impact the lives of so many in our community.

Miami Lighthouse has earned nine consecutive 4-star ratings from Charity Navigator and is currently the only nonprofit in Miami-Dade County to attain this ongoing status, which places us among the top 1% of nonprofits nationwide. Only 39 nonprofits in the U.S. have achieved this distinction. This recognition is due to the dedication of CEO Virginia Jacko and her staff, the commitment of our Board of Directors and contributions from you, our donors.

Sincerely,



Louis Nostro
Chairman, Board of Directors



Miami Lighthouse Board of Directors

Louis Nostro, Esq.

Chairman

Ramón F. Casas

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Owen S. Freed, Esq.

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Agustin R. Arellano, Jr.

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LEGAL COUNSEL

René J. González-Llorens, Esq.

Welcome New Board Directors

Gary D. Fox, Esq., of Stewart Tilghman Fox Bianchi & Cain P.A., is returning to the board after having served as a Board Director from 2004 to 2007 and Honorary Director from 2008 to 2016. For the past 39 years he has devoted his practice exclusively to the trial of civil cases in Florida. He will serve on our Board External Relations and Resource Development Committee.



Prior to joining the board, **Irwin M. Frost, Esq.**, Partner, Friedman & Frost, P.L., served for several years as a member of our Audit Committee, which is composed of individuals with financial expertise. His areas of specialization are taxation, estate planning, business law, commercial law, mergers and acquisitions and real estate. Irwin will serve on our Board Performance Oversight and Monitoring Committee.

John H. B. Harriman, Chief Operating Officer, Florida International Bankers Association (FIBA), previously served on the Miami Lighthouse Board of Directors from 2008 to 2014, during which time he served two years as Treasurer. FIBA is a non-profit trade association and international center for financial excellence. John will be a member of our Audit Committee.



Alfred Karram, Jr. is the owner, founder, and chief designer of his firm AKJ Design Concepts LLC. Alfred is an honors graduate of Pratt Institute of Architecture with a Bachelor's Degree in architecture. He has extensive nonprofit board leadership experience, including serving on the board of Miami Bridge Youth and Family Services since 2009 where he was founder of their Mentoring Program. Alfred will be a crucial member on our Board Planning and Program Development Committee.

A staunch advocate for the Miami Lighthouse during her service in the Florida legislature, **The Honorable Gwen Margolis** graciously agreed to join our Board. She will be an invaluable resource regarding community relations and has been appointed to our Board External Relations and Resource Development Committee.



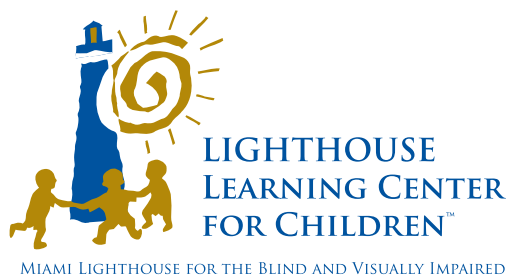
Will Beckham is a native Miamian and fourth generation property and casualty insurance agent at JM Private Insurance. Will joins the Board in his capacity as co-chair of our Young Professionals of the Lighthouse. He looks forward to co-hosting many successful YPOL events.

Lion Juan Tejera has been appointed to serve on our Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing internal controls and the external audit function.



Programs

Progress on Our Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™



An NBC Nightly News feature about our new Pre-K is viewable on our home page at www.miamilighthouse.org

In collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the Early Learning Coalition we launched our inclusion Pre-K program for 15 three- and four-year-old visually impaired children and their sighted peers this fall. Using the evidence-based HighScope Curriculum, blind or visually impaired

students are supported in a print/braille rich environment where accommodations are implemented by onsite licensed instructors trained in visual disabilities and/or certified orientation and mobility specialists. With the completion of our Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™, our pre-kindergarten will expand this coming fall to 30 children and daily services will be offered for 10 toddlers.

The groundbreaking ceremony for our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ was held on August 3, 2016; the building will be topped off on April 7, 2017; and the building dedication ceremony will be held on August 16, 2017 with classes slated to begin on August 21. Construction photos appear on page 15, and a video of construction progress up to completion of Phase 1 provided by Munilla Construction Management is available on our home page www.miamilighthouse.org.

Pre-K Testimonials



"Julian is one of the sighted children in the class. I thought you would find it interesting to hear that our son overheard my husband and me talking about someone being blind when he said, "Mommy, what is blind?" I explained to him that some people have problems with their eyes and cannot see and asked if he knew anyone who was blind. His answer came quickly. "No, I never met anyone who was blind." That says a great deal about this remarkable school program he is attending with both visually impaired and sighted schoolmates. In my mind it is simply beautiful, and I wanted you to know about it."

Julian and Solaia

Ansia, mother of Julian

"My son Memphis is one of the sighted children in the Pre-K class. He loves his class, all the other kids, and especially the teachers. Thanks for giving my son such a wonderful opportunity to learn and make such good friends with so many different people."

Yasmine, mother of Memphis



Memphis



Daniela

"My daughter loves the Pre-K program. Although she is visually impaired since birth, I don't think she has any idea that some of the children are sighted and others aren't. She loves them all. What she's really interested in is learning her braille letters and having fun tactilely exploring books."

Ania, mother of Daniela

Miami Lighthouse Music Program

The Miami Lighthouse Band has been very active both in the community and within Miami Lighthouse. Members of the band played for private events in November, starting with a dinner hosting the Miami Dade Optometric Physicians Association, as well as an event for local business owners. In December, the band played at the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Luncheon held at Jungle Island, Temple Israel, holiday parties for various local businesses, including Arquitectonica and Kampong Garden, as well as a memorial concert for Lion Bob Sims at East Ridge Retirement Village featuring Music Program graduate Natalia Sulca. We thank those who have hired our musicians to perform and invite others to do so.



Miami Lighthouse Band performing at 85th Diamond Anniversary Gala

The highlight of the concert season was the Miami Lighthouse 85th Diamond Anniversary Gala held at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables. This milestone event featured an entire evening of live music on two stages provided by the Miami Lighthouse Band and the Wynwoods, with the Lighthouse String Quartet serenading guests upon arrival. The majority of the artists performing that evening were current and past clients of Miami Lighthouse.

Our youth music program, the Better Chance Music Program, held its annual winter concert at Miami Lighthouse. The group is currently preparing to perform in the #Speak Up, Speak Out, Send a Message Talent Showcase hosted by the Miami-Dade County Department of Parks and Recreation. Working in small performance groups, these young musicians continue to produce innovative and novel projects in both performance practice and sound engineering.



Miami Lighthouse String Quartet

Miami Lighthouse Music Program



Also, the Music Department has teamed up with our Pre-K program to create Music and Movement classes for our unique inclusion model classroom. Drawing insight from various modern music learning methodologies, the classes are designed to help the children develop tactile and physical awareness of musical sounds. Using calming traditional music found throughout the world, the class builds foundational skills for lifelong music learning.

*Music Program Manager Robert Saunders
with Pre-K students Andre and Victor*

Music Program Testimonials



*Music Program
percussionist Adriel*

"I liked studying science and math in school, but music makes me happy. I have some vision, but when I'm here at the Lighthouse, playing in the band with all my friends, that's what it's all about."

"My godfather is a professional musician. He plays the trumpet, but I really like the trombone. I've learned so much here at the Lighthouse. I come to the Music Program religiously every Saturday to continue to evolve and learn, especially from music instructor Carlos Camacho. I am already getting some paid gigs."



*Music Program
trombonist Christopher*



*Lighthouse Band member, percussionist
and pianist Rick*

"I've been playing the drums since I was nine years old. I've never been sighted, but it's never stopped me from wanting to learn new things. Among those 'new things' is work with the synthesizer and learning to use the braille version of ProTools to create my own recordings. I've been a Lighthouse band member for more than three years. I love to play and reminisce about gigs at New York's famed Apollo Theater and the Village Gate."



*Instructor Carlos Camacho (left) with
Lighthouse Band member, percussionist Joel*

"This Music Program is a wonderful thing. I've been coming here for two years, and I'm learning to work with computers in the braille music program. Finding the Lighthouse has made a big difference in my life."

Profound and Transformational Changes



In other sections of this newsletter you will read about the phenomenal growth in the number of individuals we serve each year ranging from blind babies to seniors and about a new one-for-one matching challenge grant that will provide unrestricted program support to help us meet the growing demand. The numbers represent real people facing vision loss and schoolchildren whose families cannot afford to pay for an eye examination after their child has failed the state-mandated vision screening.

As the CEO of this venerable organization who happens to be blind, I am grateful for the transformational services I received at Miami Lighthouse as a former client. When invited to speak in the community, I often say that through losing my vision I found my passion—helping the blind and visually impaired lead productive,

independent lives through vision rehabilitation programs offered at Miami Lighthouse and giving schoolchildren the gift of clear vision.

Below and throughout this newsletter are testimonials from people with vision loss who came through our doors seeking help, parents of students enrolled in pre-kindergarten, teenage and adult students enrolled in our Music Program and from support staff at schools where financially disadvantaged children received a free eye examination and glasses through our Heiken Program. As we celebrate 85 years of service to our community, we take pride in the fact that our life-changing programs make a profound difference in the lives of our program participants.

Virginia A. Jacko, *President and CEO*

Adult and Senior Program Testimonials



*Senior Group Health & Activities
Program participant Nick*

"I came to Miami in 1996, and one of the first classes I took at Miami Lighthouse was Personal Management. It taught me how to live everyday life. I've been coming here ever since...When I say that the Miami Lighthouse is literally my second home, I am very serious. I am here five days a week. My life would not be the same without it."

"I always dreamed about getting my GED. I attend classes four days a week and really enjoy learning new things and making new friends. Thanks, Miami Lighthouse, you've made a huge difference for me."



*Adult Basic Education Program
participant Clinton*

"Coming to the Lighthouse has truly made me a whole new person. Most importantly, I have gained back my independence. I love the fact that I am once again learning new things. My white cane is my new companion. I carry it proudly. Thank you, Miami Lighthouse, from the bottom of my heart."

Independent Living Program participant Orozia

"It was around 2000 when my vision really got so bad that the people at Bascom Palmer told me about the Miami Lighthouse. It's given me my independence back. I've made great friends, and I'm back to cooking again thanks to the dots on my stove. I just made collard greens for my church. I learned about healthy greens during class. Ruth Marcus, the nutritionist, is great. She teaches us a lot!"

Senior Group Health and Activities Program participant Joanne

The Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, LLC

The Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program is an outstanding model of purposeful service to the community. Our dedicated professional team brings vision care to Florida's children so that they can put their energies into lifelong success and achievement. Since inception, over 100,000 children have received a dilated eye examination and glasses when prescribed through the Heiken Program.

Scott Schatz, PhD, OD, Medical Director,
Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, LLC



Our four mobile eye care units provide dilated eye exams at school sites throughout the state



A student picking out frames



Heiken Program Testimonials

"Today, an eight-year-old third grader received his first eyeglasses. He had the opportunity to pick out the style frame he wanted when he was originally examined. This morning, when he put them on, his whole face lit up and he said, 'Oh, I can see now!' Everyone in the room got misty eyed including me. That definitely made my day."

Angela, School Counselor

"The arrival of the eye glasses makes for happy kids. For the first time they see clearly, and the difference is enormous. They are able to read better. Their grades go up, and their attitude changes. The teachers are usually the ones who spot the problems in the first place and refer the children. They tell us all the time what a huge difference the improved vision makes in their students. It's a very important program, and we are grateful to have it."

Imene, School Nurse



Our Children's Summer Program, Better Chance Music Program, Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program and Early Intervention Program are funded in part by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

*James Haj, President and CEO of The Children's Trust,
visited our children's programs in November*

Work Experience, Field Trips and Gifts

FIU Men's Basketball Hosts Children from Our Summer Training and Recreation Program

Florida International University's men's basketball team hosted 20 children, ages 5-12, from our Summer Training and Recreation Program (STAR) at one of their basketball practices. This was made possible thanks to the father of Jeremy, one of the STAR students. The goal was to engage the children in the feels and sounds of the game of basketball. Miami Lighthouse President & CEO Virginia Jacko said, "Our students experienced this great opportunity with the basketball team at FIU that was not only educational but also reinforced Miami Lighthouse's motto—it's possible to see without sight™."

An FIU basketball team member assists STAR student Luhanna dunk the ball



Pre-Employment Transition/High School High Tech Program students were invited for a work experience field trip at McDonalds by franchise owners Jose and Milly Montes



Pre-Employment Transition Program students' field trip to the Miami Seaquarium



We thank Mayor Tomás Regalado, his wife Ana Cristina Regalado, Virginia Shomar and VISA employees for their generous gift of toys to our children and teenagers. Our students were delighted by their generosity. Jorge Munilla of MCM Construction and Ana Vidal-Rodriguez of radio stations La Poderosa and Cadena Azul joined the Mayor in a tour of our programs.

Left to right: Vice President of La Poderosa and Cadena Azul Ana Vidal-Rodriguez, Ana Cristina Regalado, CEO Virginia Jacko, Mayor Tomás Regalado, Jorge Munilla of MCM Construction and Virginia Shomar

Events

Matching Challenge Announced at “See The Light Luncheon” Celebrating Miami Lighthouse’s 85 Years of Service

The Wildflower Foundation announced a new one-for-one matching challenge at our See the Light Luncheon. This \$150,000 annual challenge over four years will raise \$1.2 million in crucial, unrestricted program support.



THE WILDFLOWER
FOUNDATION, INC.

Generously underwritten by Nostro Jones, P.A., GenSpring Family Offices and the Anthony R. Abraham Foundation, the event was attended by nearly 300 community leaders.



Norma Jean Abraham and CEO Virginia Jacko

NBC-Channel 6’s John Morales emceed the event that began with a performance by Miami Lighthouse Music Program student Danays Bautista who sang “Amazing Grace.” The keynote speaker was Paul Schroeder, Consultant and Past Vice President of the American Foundation for the Blind, who has been totally blind since early childhood. Mr. Schroeder spoke about the important role of the Miami Lighthouse in the lives of the blind and visually impaired.

Guests viewed our video “See Without Sight” produced by Multivision that features Miami Lighthouse clients participating in various programs. This video is on our home page at www.miamilighthouse.org.



Jennifer Jones, CEO Virginia Jacko and Board Chair Louis Nostro



Miami Lighthouse Board Directors Jan Morrison and Scott Richey



Continuing the 85-year tradition of Lions support, we thank the Lions who provided and served over 200 Thanksgiving lunches to our program participants.

Events

White Cane Day



Grand Marshall Billy the Marlin with members of the City of Miami's mounted police force and fire department walked down Southwest 8th Street on Friday, October 14th, escorting some 150 blind and visually impaired participants in our White Cane Day Celebration. The annual event celebrates independence for the blind as symbolized by their white cane.

Volunteers from Florida Blue, UM's Delta Gamma Sorority, and various Lions Clubs were all part of the celebration that started and ended at Miami Lighthouse. Once back at the Lighthouse this year's emcee, Ron Magill, the Goodwill Ambassador of ZooMiami, welcomed the crowd and introduced presentations by keynote speaker Penny Shaffer, Market President of Florida Blue, the event's presenting sponsor; Denise Valkema of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida; and Paul Edwards of the Florida Council of the Blind. Breakfast was underwritten by Walgreens Store #2544 and lunch by Burger King #12778.

Other sponsors included Uber, MassMutual Miami, Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Lions for the Blind, the Law Offices of Benedict P. Kuehne, OrCam Technologies and Spine Solutions.



Ron Magill and Penny Shaffer, Market President South Florida, Florida Blue



Marlins and Major League Baseball (MLB) dignitaries visited Miami Lighthouse in February. Left front: Alfredo Mesa, VP & Executive Director, Marlins Foundation and Gary Taylor, MLB Senior Director, Design; Left Rear: Melanie LeGrande, MLB VP Social Responsibility; Juan Garciga, Marlins Manager, Player Relations and Youth Baseball; Right: Alan Alvarez, Director Marlins Foundation; CEO Virginia Jacko, Angela Smith, MLB Senior Director, Community Outreach; John Schwarz, MLB Coordinator, Community Affairs; Tom Brasuell, MLB VP Community Affairs; Steve Arocho, MLB Director Public Relations.

Events

Miami Dade Optometric Physicians Association Meeting

Members of the Miami Dade Optometric Physicians Association (MDOPA) held their November meeting at Miami Lighthouse. Attendees were welcomed by Nathan R. Etten, O.D., MDOPA President. He introduced CEO Jacko who spoke on “Collaboration with the Optometric Community.” Scott Gartner, O.D., Miami Lighthouse Low Vision Consulting Optometrist, provided a continuing education presentation on “Remaining Independent with Low Vision.” The event was sponsored by Essilor Laboratories of America, and the evening’s music was provided by Miami Lighthouse Music Program instructors Cellist Robert Saunders and Violinist Molly Paige.



Scott Gartner, O.D., Board Director Stephen Morris, O.D., Nathan R. Etten, O.D., CEO Virginia Jacko, Board Directors Alan Levitt, O. D. and Maricarmen Perez-Blanco, O. D.

2017 McCrea Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

On February 14th, Valentine’s Day, at our annual McCrea Family Volunteer Recognition Luncheon we said “thank you,” to our volunteers. Honorees included Rita Stone, Karen Calderon and Lion Fred Morris. Also acknowledged at the lunch were the 85th Anniversary Gala Host Committee Members, Delta Gamma Beta Tau Chapter, and Miami Lions Club, with a special thank you to our Miami Lighthouse Board of Directors and Legal Counsel. Our guests and honorees were treated to beautiful musical tributes by our Miami Lighthouse Music Program musicians.

We thank the McCrea family for their continued support and David B. McCrea for underwriting the luncheon.



Volunteer honorees Karen Calderon and Rita Stone with CEO Virginia Jacko



Board Directors Pablo Gonzalez, George Foyo, Angela Whitman, CEO Virginia Jacko, Honorary Board Director Audrey Ross, Legal Counsel Rene Gonzalez-Llorens, Esq., and Board Director Alfred Karram, Jr.



Lion Nelba Gonzalez, Volunteer Honoree Lion Fred Morris, Lions Maria Pusey, CEO Virginia Jacko, Alan Campbell, Juan Tejera and Harry Magee, Jr.

Awards and Recognitions

On January 24th the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners presented a congratulatory letter to Miami Lighthouse in honor of earning our ninth consecutive 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, the nation's premier independent nonprofit evaluator. Of the approximately 8,000 charities evaluated each year by Charity Navigator, Miami Lighthouse is ranked among the top 1% in the nation and currently is the only nonprofit in Miami with nine consecutive 4-star ratings. This distinction reflects our sound fiscal management, responsible use of donor dollars, and financial strength.



Miami-Dade County Commission Chair Esteban Bovo, Commissioner Sally Heyman, CEO Virginia Jacko, Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava and Director of External Relations Cameron Sisser

Staff News

Continuing our long tradition of collaboration with Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Chief Program Officer **Carol Brady-Simmons** has been invited to participate in weekly grand rounds. She serves as a resource for the doctors who refer children and adults to Miami Lighthouse for vision rehabilitation.

Director of Children's Programs **Isabel Chica** completed an Administration of Child Care and Education Program at Nova University and has fulfilled the Florida state requirements for Department of Children and Families (DCF) Directors Credentials. DCF Child Care Facility Training Requirements include courses taken through Miami Dade College on: Child Care Facility Rules and Regulations, Health Safety and Nutrition, Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, Child Growth and Development, Behavioral Observation and Screening, and Special Needs Appropriate Practices. In addition, Ms. Chica was trained in implementing the evidence-based HighScope Curriculum.

Computer Technology Services Instructor **Jorge Hernandez** has been elected president of the Greater Miami Dade Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida.

In Memoriam

Our Music Program lost **Leon Stewart** in December 2016 at the age of 23. Leon was a caring and integral part of the Miami Lighthouse family and had been enrolled in our programs since he was four years old. Just this past Christmas he distributed toys to our students. He will be missed.

Leon Stewart at 2014 Miami Lighthouse Transition Program graduation ceremony



What's New in Technology— Glasses that Read

Our Vision Solutions Center now offers OrCam, a small camera worn in the style of Google Glass, connected by a thin cable to a tiny portable computer designed to fit in the wearer's pocket. The system clips on to the wearer's glasses with a small magnet and uses a bone-conduction speaker to offer clear speech as it reads aloud the words or object pointed to by the user. For more information contact John Garcia, Licensed Dispensing Optician, 786-362-7489.

Thanks to Our Donors

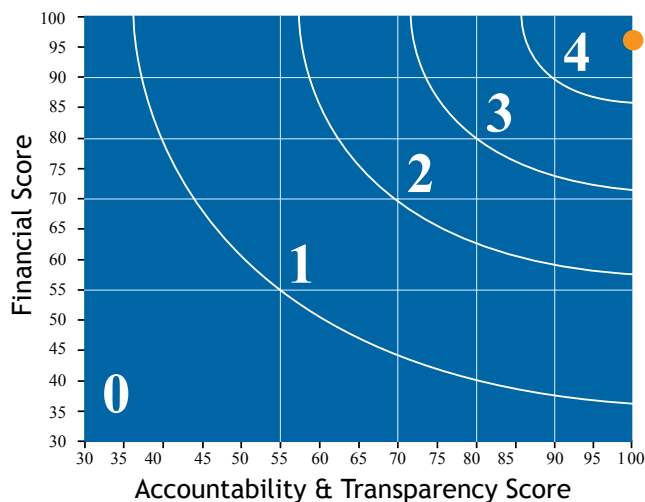
Because of the generosity of our donors, construction of our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ is well under way.

We express our appreciation to contributors who made matching gifts to the Spencer Challenge for our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ which made this expansion possible. The initial matching gift was provided by the Anthony R. Abraham Foundation. Major contributors to the match were The William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Braman; Mr. and Mrs. Juan Js. Roca; Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Nielson, Sr.; H. Angela Whitman Foundation, Inc.; Helliwell Family Foundation, Inc.; Miami Lions Foundation and Lions Clubs International Foundation; The Micky and Madeleine Arison Family Foundation; The Batchelor Foundation; The Family Foundation and other foundations and philanthropists. A donor recognition plaque in our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ will list these and all other contributors. We also express our appreciation to Munilla Construction Management LLC and Wolfberg Alvarez & Partners for providing their services promptly and below cost.



Charity Navigator Score December 1, 2016

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired is rated nationally among the top 1% of the 8,000 charities rated by Charity Navigator. In other words, we are among the elite 39 charities in the U.S. that have received nine consecutive 4-star ratings, the highest rating possible, from the nation's premier independent nonprofit evaluator Charity Navigator reflecting our sound fiscal management, responsible use of donor dollars and financial strength.



	SCORE (out of 100)	RATING
OVERALL	98.06	★★★★★
• Financial	97.27	★★★★★
• Accountability & Transparency	100	★★★★★



Source: Miami Lighthouse listing on Charity Navigator website
www.charitynavigator.org

Miami Lighthouse Donor Bill Of Rights

Miami Lighthouse respects the rights of its donors, and under no circumstances will donor contact information be shared with or sold to another entity. To read our Donor Bill of Rights, please visit our website:

<http://www.miamilighthouse.com/Docs/ADonorBillOfRights20100812.pdf>

Join the Helen Keller Legacy Society by including Miami Lighthouse in your estate plans.
Contact Virginia Jacko, President and CEO, at 305.856.4176

ONE-FOR-ONE MATCHING CHALLENGE

The Wildflower Foundation, Inc. has generously provided a one-for-one matching challenge to our donors. This \$150,000 annual challenge over four years will raise \$1.2 million in unrestricted program support. In 2004 we served nearly 500 clients. During fiscal year 2016 we served nearly 13,000; an additional 4,000 were reached through community education and outreach programs. The Wildflower Challenge will help us meet this growing demand for our services.



THE WILDFLOWER
FOUNDATION, INC.

EASY WAYS TO DONATE!

We would like to thank friends of Miami Lighthouse who support our mission when making online purchases through AmazonSmile and eBay giving works.



If you are shopping at Amazon, simply shop through the AmazonSmile website and choose Miami Lighthouse as your charity. Amazon will then donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Miami Lighthouse.

If you are shopping on eBay, make Miami Lighthouse your "Favorite Non-Profit" and choose to give a donation at checkout.





Zakhia



601 SW 8th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33130
305.856.2288

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FROM A GRATEFUL PRE-K PARENT

"I see so much progress in her learning. Thanks, Miami Lighthouse, you are making a big difference in my daughter's life."

Crasha, mother of Zakhia



LIVING WITH LOW VISION

WHAT IS LOW VISION?
Low vision is a visual loss not correctable by standard eyeglasses, contact lenses, medicine or surgery.

MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE CAN HELP. . .
An optometrist specializing in low vision and a licensed occupational therapist can help by providing low vision assessments and recommending assistive devices such as low vision aids and equipment.

To schedule an appointment
or if you need assistive devices call our
Vision Solutions Center at 786-362-7479.
601 SW 8th Avenue • Miami, FL 33130
www.miamilighthouse.org

SAVE THE DATE!

April 7, 2017 — 11:00 a.m.
Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™
Topping Off Party at Miami Lighthouse

May 24, 2017 — 6:00 p.m.
Music Under the Stars
Benefiting our Heiken Children's Vision Program
Brickell City Centre Mall, 4th Floor

August 16, 2017 — 11:00 a.m.
Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™
Dedication Ceremony at Miami Lighthouse

October 16, 2017
White Cane Day at Miami Lighthouse



For the print impaired, the Lantern is available in an alternative format.
For more information, call 786.362.7514 or visit our website at
www.miamilighthouse.org

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