

**MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND NAMED 2022 GRANT RECIPIENT,
RECEIVES \$100,000 DONATION FROM THE JORGE M. PÉREZ FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

*The Family Foundation Promotes Economic and Social Equity through \$1.775 Million
Investment in Miami-based Organizations*

MIAMI, FL (Dec. 12, 2022) – Miami Lighthouse for the Blind announced today that it has received a generous donation of \$100,000 from The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation, as a part of this year’s social and economic issue area grants program. The grants, which total more than \$1.775 million, will be distributed over the next two years and will benefit 13 local organizations, with the goal of promoting a stronger, more equitable South Florida.

“The social and economic well-being of our community’s most at-need groups is instrumental to the region’s overall growth and prosperity,” said Jorge M. Pérez, family patriarch and head of The Foundation. “We are honored to provide financial support to these organizations, as their efforts – new and continuing – are truly making a difference in the lives of many. We look forward to witnessing the successes of the grantees in the coming months and years.”

“We are grateful for the continued commitment of The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation to our visually impaired and sighted students at our Miami Lighthouse Academy, helping us expand curricular offerings for early learners to second grade. We are proud to announce that, for the fifth year in a row, researchers at the University of Miami have found that our Academy’s inclusive model benefits students, teachers, and parents. The quality of teacher-child interactions in emotional and behavioral support in our Academy exceeded the national average of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System, an industry standard rating scale,” said Virginia A. Jacko, President and CEO of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind.

For nearly a century, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind has been working to build a more inclusive society for the blind and visually impaired. Innovative programming removes barriers to education, jobs and critical eye care and unlocks the power of the internet and technology. Through education, training, research and vision enhancement, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired provides hope, confidence, and independence to people of all ages.

Founded in 2015, The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation promotes sustainable, inclusive, and just communities by supporting programs and organizations focused on arts and culture, health and well-being, education, the environment and economic development. To date, The Foundation has distributed upwards of \$36 million in philanthropic support.

For more information about Miami Lighthouse for the Blind please visit www.miamilighthouse.org. More information on The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation, its mission, and previous donations can be found at jmperezfamilyfoundation.org.

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