



MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE ANNOUNCES TWO NEW CHALLENGE GRANTS AT ANNUAL SEE THE LIGHT LUNCHEON

Miami Lighthouse is grateful to the Wildflower Foundation and The Family Foundation for their continuing support. At our October 27th See the Light Luncheon a new Wildflower Foundation matching challenge was announced that will provide support for our year-round music and tactile art programs for our visually impaired children and adults. The Wildflower Foundation support enables us to offer sound engineering and music instruction to our adult learners and schoolchildren, to provide art instruction and supplies for our talented program participants, and to foster lifelong appreciation of and enjoyment of the arts. To participate in this new challenge, you can make a contribution by using the enclosed business reply envelope or by making a donation earmarked for the Wildflower Challenge on our website, www.miamilighthouse.org

To learn more about art and music at Miami Lighthouse you can listen to a conversation between Christine Stiefel, founder and President of The Wildflower Foundation, and Aaron Hill, Miami Lighthouse Senior Group Health and Activities Instructor and artist. This discussion entitled "A Discussion About the Arts at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind" is episode five of our Vision Insights podcasts and is available on our website at www.miamilighthouse.org/Podcast.asp

A new matching challenge by the Family Foundation to help sustain our Miami Lighthouse Academy was announced at the luncheon, and we are grateful to our generous supporters who quickly completed the match. Our Academy is a nationally recognized early learning program for visually impaired early learners through second grade, and our inclusion model Pre-K, which enrolls visually impaired and sighted early learners. Children without vision impairment and with vision loss share classrooms to enhance the learning environment and prepare visually impaired students for mainstreaming into our public school system.



Miami Lighthouse Academy students performing "Three Little Birds" at the See the Light Luncheon

(continued on page 2)

Mission Statement

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.

See the Light Luncheon (continued)

Nearly 300 guests enjoyed a delicious lunch and watched a fascinating program led by Emcee Marissa Bagg, NBC-6 Journalist. A heartwarming musical performance of “Three Little Birds” was sung by the adorable early learners from our Miami Lighthouse Academy. Jason Eckert, Executive Director at Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Foundation, gave an inspiring keynote speech, urging attendees to be bold and stand up for the rights of the blind and visually impaired. The call to action continued with a parent testimonial by Ali Mandsaurwala, Miami Lighthouse Board Director whose daughter, Naaya, attends our Miami Lighthouse Academy.



Carol Russo, CEO Virginia Jacko, and Former Miami-Dade County Commissioner Sally Heyman

Our See the Light Luncheon raised over \$200,000 which will be matched dollar for dollar by the two new challenges. Sponsors for this year’s luncheon included Northern Trust Bank, NEA Insurance Group, The H. Angela Whitman Foundation, TD Bank, DEX Imaging and Norma Jean Abraham.



Board Director and Immediate Past Board Chair George Foyo, CEO Virginia Jacko, Trish and Dan Bell



Norma Jean Abraham and CEO Virginia Jacko



Emcee Marissa Bagg, NBC-6 Journalist, with Board Director Ali Mandsaurwala



Keynote Speaker Jason Eckert with CEO Virginia Jacko



Christine Stiefel, President of The Wildflower Foundation, and Thomas Abraham, CEO of the Anthony R. Abraham Foundation



Leslie Buchanan, Vice President, and Tina Lane, President, of the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation with CEO Virginia Jacko

Miami Lighthouse

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Chairman's Letter

Dear Friends of Miami Lighthouse,

When I became Chairman of the Board of Directors in January of 2021, Miami Lighthouse was just beginning to recover from the turbulence caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the greatest challenge we have faced in our nearly 100-year history. I am proud to report that Miami Lighthouse was able to continue providing services despite the impact of the pandemic and that the number of program participants now has returned to the pre-pandemic level (see the Program Participant Graph on page 8).

Miami Lighthouse recently received a score of 100% on the Charity Navigator Culture and Community Encompass Beacon, which provides an assessment of our organization's culture and connectedness to the community it serves (refer to the Charity Navigator graph on the back cover). That our Board Members have the capacity and empathy to understand vision impairment is demonstrated by the fact that 24% are visually impaired or have a family member with a vision disability, and 14% are optometrists or medical doctors specializing in visual impairment. Their expertise along with the dedication and support of all of our board members ensures that our nearly 25,000 program participants, from blind babies to seniors with age-related vision loss, thrive in a culture that paves the way for them to lead independent and productive lives.

As we look forward to 2024, our 95th year of serving the blind and visually impaired in our community, we count on your support to assure the highest level of service to our program participants. In return, we will continue to strive to provide the highest degree of value to you, our stakeholders. Thank you for being part of our ongoing effort to transform the lives of the blind and visually impaired.

Sincerely,



Charles J. Nielson
Chairman, Board of Directors



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Miami Lighthouse Academy, LLC
Virginia A. Jacko, M.S., *President*
Karla Richey, M.S., *Treasurer*
Alan P. Levitt, O.D., *Secretary*



Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, LLC
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Board News

At our Board Annual Meeting in January, officers of the organization were elected as shown on the previous page. Of note is that Steven Solomon was named chair-elect, and Charles Nielson was elected to serve a third year as Board Chair. Directors John H. B. Harriman and Gary D. Fox, Esq., who completed their six-year terms of office, were presented crystal lighthouses in appreciation of their service.

Saturday, January 27, 2024, was announced as the date of our gala celebrating our 95th Diamond Anniversary to be held at the Biltmore. Gala Committee members are: Terri Shikany, Gala Committee Chair; Xiomara Blanco-Niebles; Linda Corey; Sheila Freed; Pamela Garrison; Olga Nielson; Karla Richey; Caterina Sastri; and Angela Whitman.

Steven J. Solomon has served as a member of the Miami Lighthouse Board of Directors since 2012 and currently chairs our Performance Oversight and Monitoring Committee. Other community organizations with which he is affiliated are Leadership Florida and the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, where he has served on their Board of Directors' Executive Committee from 2020 to the present. Steven is the Managing Shareholder of GrayRobinson's Miami Office and Chair of the firm's Bankruptcy Section. He has more than 25 years of experience in business bankruptcy Chapter 11, distressed transactions, out-of-court workouts, restructuring law and representing fiduciaries. He received a B.S. in accounting and J.D. from the University of Florida and is a member of Florida Blue Key leadership honorary.



John Harriman, Gary Fox and Board Chair Charles Nielson



Chair-Elect Steven J. Solomon

Staff Kudos

Governor DeSantis reappointed Jorge Hernandez to the Florida Rehabilitation Council for the Blind (FRCB) in October 2022. Jorge was elected chair of the FRCB by the members of the Council in October of 2021 and was reelected chair this year. As Chair he represents the FRCB in conferences, special sessions of the Division of Blind Services (DBS), presides over the quarterly meetings, and provides feedback to DBS on the annual report submitted to the Rehabilitation Service Administration, which is the federal agency that oversees the nation's rehabilitation program at the state level.

At Miami Lighthouse, Jorge is Manager of Technology and is one of our IT specialists who conducts website audits for compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. He is on the board of directors of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida, is president of the local Miami-Dade Chapter, and holds a B.S. in Information Technology with a minor in Business Management from FIU.



Jorge Hernandez

In Memoriam

Paul DiMare, a long-time Miami Lighthouse supporter, passed away on December 30, 2022. He was a philanthropist whose generosity benefitted community arts, science, educational and social service organizations and was a long-serving member of the University of Miami Board of Trustees. We offer our condolences to his wife, Swanee, and the DiMare family.

Paul and Swanee DiMare at the Miami Lighthouse Ruby Jubilee celebration in 2011



Miami Lighthouse Has Completed the Final Construction Project of Our Miami Lighthouse Academy



James and Olga visited the Owen S. Freed Playground

With the opening of our expanded Owen S. Freed playground, our Miami Lighthouse Academy construction project will be complete. The play area provides green space with tables and benches for picnics and social gathering areas so that we can separate our early learners and our early elementary schoolchildren from our older schoolchildren. In this safe outdoor area students can play, learn orientation and mobility skills, and grow and maintain an edible garden.

This playground expansion project was funded by

Miami-Dade County, Commissioner Sally Heyman, Commissioner Raquel Regalado, and Commissioner Rebeca Sosa with construction, architectural design and landscaping by Miller Construction Company, Wolfberg Alvarez & Partners, and Dixie Landscape.

We are proud to report that Miller Construction, the general contractor for our Miami Lighthouse Academy expansion, received the 2022 Eagle Award for Excellence in Construction from the Associated Builders and Contractors, Florida East Coast Chapter. The Excellence in Construction Award is one of the industry's most recognized and competitive awards focusing on every key aspect of a successful construction project. Winning projects were reviewed by an independent panel of judges. Our Miami Lighthouse Mary M. and Sash A. Spencer Campus is situated on a 1.39-acre site that now encompasses an entire city block.



Miami Lighthouse Academy Expansion by Miller Construction: 2022 Eagle Award for Excellence in Construction

PROGRAMS

Miami Lighthouse received recognition from the Able Trust for exceeding the family involvement guidepost in our High School High Tech Program for our Pre-Employment Transition Program students. We exceeded the services provided among all the High School High Tech programs in Florida and are honored to be recognized for providing high quality program service to our students in 2022.



The Able Trust Florida High School High Tech certificate and trophy



Voluntary Prekindergarten

Our early learning program includes Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK), which is a free prekindergarten program for both sighted and visually impaired 4-year-olds born on or before September 1 of the year they would enter the program. VPK presents each child the opportunity to perform better in school and throughout life with quality programs that include age-appropriate curricula and emphasis on early literacy skills, accountability, manageable class sizes and qualified instructors. Data collected by the Department of Education show that children who participate in VPK are much more ready for kindergarten than children who do not participate in VPK. To inquire about enrolling your child in our voluntary prekindergarten please contact the Program Coordinator at 786-362-7483 or go to www.vpkhelp.org/ to register.



WOLFBERG ALVAREZ



PROGRAMS

Increasing Community Awareness of Cortical Visual Impairment

Our Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) Collaborative hosted a full-day workshop in January to increase community Awareness of CVI. The keynote speaker was Mr. Matthew Tietjen, MEd, CTVI, who developed and spoke on his “What’s the Complexity Framework” that enables educational teams to evaluate and address barriers to a visually accessible school day. Interactive discussions focused on the impact that CVI can have on literacy, behavior, and acquiring math/numeracy skills. Mr. Tietjen provided strategies to adapt learning materials and the learning environment for students with CVI.

The 36 workshop attendees included Miami-Dade County Schools educators, representatives from The Early Learning Coalition, Easterseals, ARC of South Florida, Miami Lighthouse Academy teachers and professional staff, and parents.

Participants responded to a survey about their understanding, preparedness and ability to provide strategies for students with CVI prior to and after the presentation with the following notable results:

	Before	After
Name and describe the unique characteristics of CVI	47%	100%
Provide strategies to create accessible math materials for students	42%	100%
Describe the impact that CVI has on a child’s visual access to their school day/experience	61%	100%

The workshop was funded by our The Children’s Trust Innovation Grant to facilitate community-wide events for educational and health professionals, service providers, and community partners to increase awareness of CVI.

At our 14th annual continuing education seminar “Engaging the Low Vision Community through Education, Research and Service” in February, offered in collaboration with the Florida International University Nichole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences Occupational Therapy Department, 30 physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, occupational therapists, occupational therapist assistants, and students had the opportunity to learn about Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI).

A session entitled “A Team Approach: Addressing the Unique Needs of Learners with CVI” was presented by Francesca Crozier-Fitzgerald, Med, MS, CTVI, Director of our CVI Collaborative Center, who is an endorsed CVI specialist, Certified Teacher of the Visually Impaired and Board member of the Pediatric Cortical Visual Impairment Society, and Dr. Ylianne Llana, OTD, OTR/L and Pediatric Occupational Therapist at Miami Lighthouse. Their presentation defined CVI’s unique characteristics and phases, and its differences from ocular visual impairments; discussed the implications of CVI for occupational therapists and teachers of the visually impaired service provision; explained how CVI specific intervention can improve visual access to materials and address fine motor development; and shared the benefits of ongoing, creative collaborative teamwork.

On the evaluation questionnaire for the CVI presentation, 95% of respondents stated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with their preparedness to understand the visual behaviors of a patient/client/student with CVI.

The goal of our annual continuing education seminar is to empower healthcare professionals with the knowledge they require to meet the needs of the growing number of patients who are impacted by vision loss, and this seminar provided the opportunity to offer a session on CVI to educate these professionals about its prevalence and treatment. We are grateful to the Deering Trust for funding that enables us to conduct this annual seminar through which professionals are able to obtain continuing education credits.

Miami Lighthouse Academy Featured on NBC 6

In addition to covering our Miami Lighthouse Academy, LLC on the NBC 6 evening news on February 13, their website featured an article entitled, “Empathy and Inclusion: Miami Lighthouse Bridges Gap for Blind, Visually Impaired Students.” Both the on-air coverage and article included information on the longitudinal study of our Miami Lighthouse Academy, LLC inclusion model stating that the most recent results of the study found that interactions between teachers and students exceeded national averages for pre-K and toddler classes, that students improved their social and peer interaction skills, and that students at Miami Lighthouse have higher empathy scores after being enrolled for longer than a year.



Our Early Childhood Research Demonstration Project is funded by The Children’s Trust, enabling teams from the University of Miami research faculty and Miami Lighthouse to conduct collaborative research on our Miami Lighthouse Academy, LLC inclusion program where sighted and blind children interact and study the same curriculum.

Art Accolades

We applaud our artistic clients who despite their vision loss are winning national recognition. Most recently, paintings by two adult artists from our Miami Lighthouse will be included among 20 artworks in the exclusive “Reflections: The Art of Well Being,” a juried art exhibition at Jacksonville’s prestigious Cummer Museum and Gardens. Chosen to be exhibited were Nora Delabat’s “Emerged in Tranquility” and Dora Deleon’s “Frida’s Inner Beauty Transcends.” Presented in collaboration with Arts4All Florida, artists of all abilities statewide were invited to submit artwork for consideration. The exhibition will run April through May.



“Emerged in Tranquility”



SGA artists creating “Seeing Eye Dog,” a mixed media painting, that is now permanently displayed in the lobby of Miami-Dade Animal Services in Doral

their age—through art and music.” The photograph that accompanied the article was “Seeing Eye Dog” created by artists in our Senior Group Health and Activities Program (SGA).

We are proud to announce that American Printing House for the Blind (APH) has acquired “Magical Monet,” which was made by four Miami Lighthouse Academy second grade art students who were inspired by Claude Monet’s “Water Lilies.” “Magical Monet” received second place in its age group in the APH 2022 Insights international art competition and now will be displayed in the permanent art collection at the American Printing House in Louisville, Kentucky.

The December 2022 Art Basel issue of *Miami Modern Luxury Magazine* featured Miami Lighthouse in an article entitled “Guiding Light.” The article discussed how Miami Lighthouse art and music programs have benefitted from the previous Wildflower Foundation matching challenge, “...by helping the visually impaired achieve hope, confidence and independence—no matter

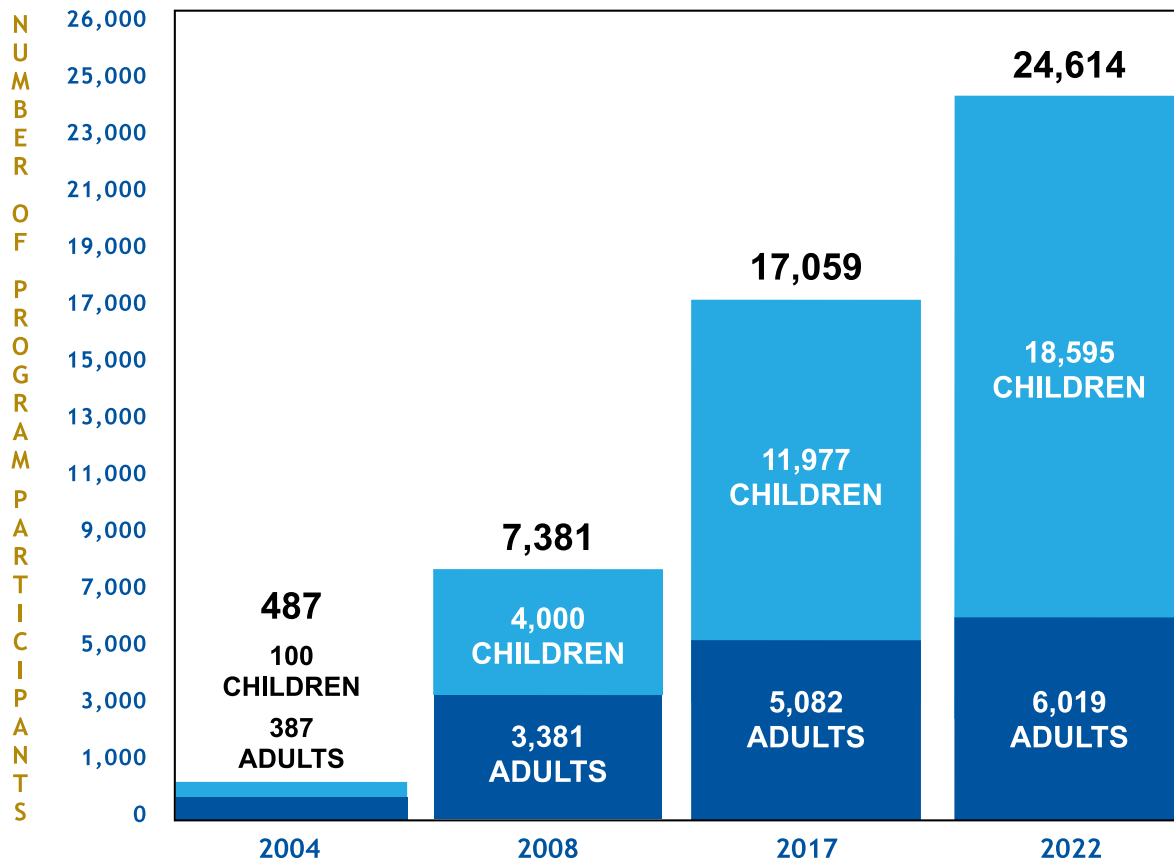


“Frida’s Inner Beauty Transcends”



“Magical Monet”

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired
History of Program Participants 2004-2022



Is Your Website Compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act?



Confirming Your Website is Accessible

Miami Lighthouse offers website auditing to ensure website accessibility for users with disabilities. Our blind IT experts are uniquely qualified to help make your web content ADA compliant and accessible to users with sensory, cognitive and mobility disabilities, but ultimately to all users regardless of ability.

Episode four of our “Vision Insights” podcasts is a discussion about the importance of website accessibility. This episode features Lili Crook, COO of Crook & Crook, a family-owned, full-service marine and fishing tackle retailer located in Miami but also doing business globally through the Crook and Crook website; Robert Fine, a shareholder with the law firm of Greenberg Traurig who specializes in issues involving the Americans with Disabilities Act; and Jorge Hernandez, Manager of Technology at Miami Lighthouse. They discuss the real-world aspects of the importance of website accessibility and how Miami Lighthouse works with businesses to make their websites accessible. Our “Vision Insight” podcasts are available on our website at: www.miamilighthouse.org/Podcast.asp

Let us help make your website ADA compliant. Request your free consultation today. We also offer quarterly reviews of websites to ensure website accessibility on a continual basis.

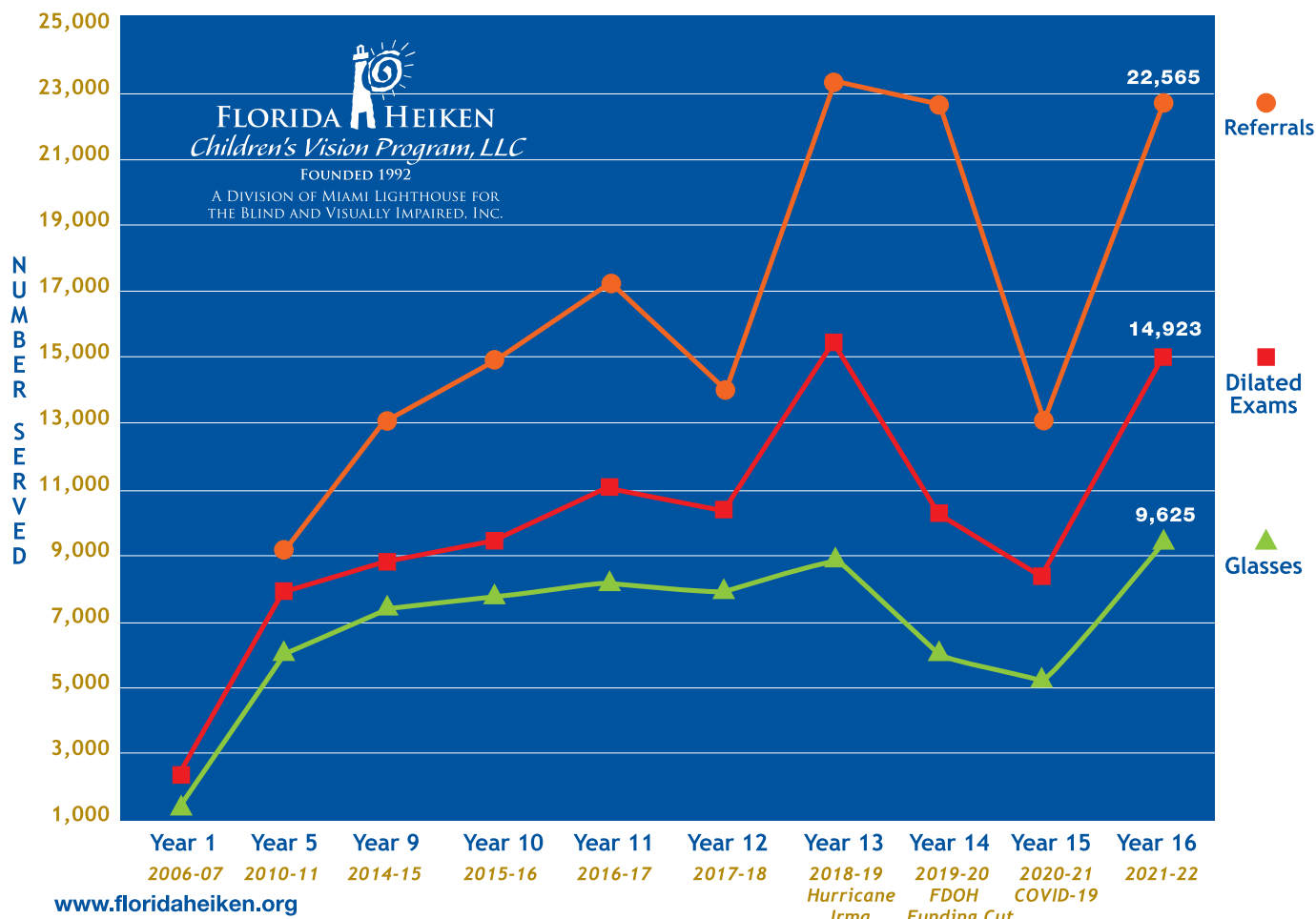
For more information call 305-856-4176 or email us at adacompliance@miamilighthouse.org

“Vision Insights” Podcasts

Our “Vision Insights” podcasts address issues and concerns faced by the blind and visually impaired community, explore new developments in health and education technological progress benefitting the blind, and feature inspirational stories. “Vision Insights” can be heard on all major podcast outlets, including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Audible and Amazon Music as well as on the Miami Lighthouse website at www.miamilighthouse.org/Podcast.asp

E POINTS OF PRIDE

Addressing Unmet Eye Care Needs of Florida's Public Schoolchildren 2006-2022



We are pleased to report that at the close of the 2021-2022 school year children who received a dilated eye exam and glasses from our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program had returned to the number of children we served prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Heiken Program provides comprehensive eye examinations and prescription glasses when needed at no cost to vulnerable schoolchildren statewide.

The American Optometric Association has found that 60% of children identified as problem learners actually suffer from undetected vision problems. Their research further shows that with early intervention, children are able to read assignments, see the board, and learn to their fullest potential. Their prospects for succeeding in school and life improve immeasurably.

Our own research confirms that a comprehensive eye examination that determines whether a student needs glasses is crucial to academic achievement. In our 2020 market research survey funded by the Health Foundation of South Florida, nearly 80% of respondents reported that their child had improved in school because of the services provided by our Heiken Program.

Historically, our Heiken program has not been able to provide service to all of the children who are referred to us for eye care, and the unmet need has grown over time as shown on the graph above. During school year 2021-2022 Heiken received 22,565 referrals, but only had funding from all sources to provide services to 14,923 students leaving 7,642 who failed their vision screening without essential eye care.

Please help us closed the gap between the number of children referred and those we are able to help by making a contribution earmarked for our Heiken Program.

The Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program is partially funded by:



PROGRAMS

Miami Lighthouse Teenagers Visit Restaurant Brands International

Some corporations only talk about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), but Restaurant Brands International (RBI) CEO Jose Cil leads corporate America every day in practicing DEI to the fullest. We thank Jose Cil and the entire RBI Team for treating blind teenagers enrolled in our Pre-Employment Transition Program to a delicious Thanksgiving lunch and for providing information about the many careers available to them with Burger King, Popeye's, and all RBI brands. Funded by the Florida Division of Blind Services, the goal of the Pre-Employment Transition Program is to help young adults reach their full potential. We are grateful to RBI for giving our students the opportunity to learn about employment opportunities.



RBI CEO Jose Cil, Chief People and Services Officer Jeff Housman with Miami Lighthouse Pre-Employment Transition Program students

An Unforgettable Event for 10 of our Visually Impaired Students



Udonis Haslem with students during their holiday shopping spree

It happened over the holidays as 10 of our Miami Lighthouse visually impaired students experienced a shopping spree they will never forget. Miami Heat star and team captain Udonis Haslem is no stranger to giving back to the community. During the holiday season Haslem took dozens of students to Walmart, including 10 students from Miami Lighthouse, and handed each one a \$200 gift card to buy whatever their heart desired. After their exciting Walmart visit, the students traveled to the FunDimension Amusement Center for lunch and hours of games. Many thanks to The Udonis Haslem Foundation for organizing this special event, which was featured on WPLG Local 10 and WSVN 7 News.

Inter Miami CF Academy Coaches Provide Soccer Clinic for Miami Lighthouse Teenagers



Team members from Inter Miami CF and Florida Blue with Miami Lighthouse for the Blind Pre-Employment Transition Program Students

Inter Miami CF and Florida Blue partnered to provide Miami Lighthouse for the Blind teenagers a touch tour and soccer clinic. The specially designed clinic taught the history, basic skills, and rules of soccer. Our blind and visually impaired students tested their skills with a fun soccer match using soccer balls with rattlers inside that enabled them to locate the ball by sound. The Inter Miami CF human resources department also spent time with our teenagers describing the numerous career possibilities within a professional sports team and giving our teenagers valuable lessons related to job readiness. We thank David Wagner, South Florida Market President of Florida Blue, and his team for setting up the collaboration with Inter Miami CF and the Inter Miami CF Foundation to promote healthy living among our teenage population.

Collaborations, Partnerships and Tours

South Dade Schools ArtsFest

This event, held in February 2023, showcased the artistic achievements of Miami-Dade County Public School students. Produced in partnership with Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, ArtsFest featured eight arts-sensory interactive exhibitions to engage children of all backgrounds and abilities in the arts. The event was presented in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida Division of Arts and Culture, Miami-Dade County School Board and Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Village of Pinecrest.

Our Lions Clubs Made the Thanksgiving Holiday Extra Special

Our deepest thanks go to Lions District 35-N Hunger Relief Committee for hosting a food distribution event at Miami Lighthouse. Approximately 90% of the program participants we serve are from underserved populations living in poverty zones. Food insecurity is a serious problem for our blind adults and children. Each day, we serve nearly 200 meals to our Academy schoolchildren and our adult clients.



Lions District 35-N Hunger Relief Committee delivered food for families in our Miami Lighthouse Academy

We applaud Miami Springs Lions Club President and Hunger Relief Committee Chair Elizabeth Fisher for bringing food on a monthly basis for our low-income Academy students and thank the entire Lions Hunger Relief Committee for helping combat food insecurity among our blind families.



Lions for the Blind served Thanksgiving lunch to our Program Participants

We are grateful to the Lions for the Blind for living up to Helen Keller's challenge for the Lions to become "knights for the blind in the crusade against darkness." Lions for the Blind President Nelly Martinez, along with other Lions, hosted a savory Thanksgiving lunch of turkey, potatoes, green beans and pumpkin pie at Miami Lighthouse for our adult clients. We also applaud Publix and Trader Joe's for remembering our program participants during the holiday season with food donations. Support from the community is crucial, and we ask you to make a donation today to help end food insecurity in our blind community.

Rotary International President Visits Miami Lighthouse

Miami Lighthouse was proud to welcome Rotary International President Jennifer Jones, the first woman to hold that most prestigious office in Rotary's 118-year history. This was one of the only planned visits President Jones, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, will make to the United States this year. It was an honor to host Rotary International President Jones and local Rotarians for a tour of our campus. In the late 1920s, blind activist Dolly Gamble enlisted the Miami Rotary clubs to help the blind achieve independence, and from their efforts the Florida Association of Workers for the Blind was born, which would later be renamed Miami Lighthouse for the Blind.



Students from our Miami Lighthouse Academy with Rotarians (top row left to right): Frank Voytek, Miami Lighthouse Board Director; Maria Kesti, Peter Verbeeck; Robin Shelley, Miami Lighthouse Board Director; (bottom row left to right): Rotary District 6990 Governor Michael Kesti; Dr. Nick Krayacich, Rotary International President; Jennifer Jones; Virginia Jacko, President and CEO Miami Lighthouse; and Susan Shelley

Events

McCrea Family Volunteer Luncheon

On Valentine's Day, February 14th, we celebrated our annual McCrea Family Volunteer Recognition Luncheon to express our thanks to our volunteers. A longstanding tradition at Miami Lighthouse, the event is made possible by the McCrea family, whose legacy of volunteerism with us began in our early days when Helen Sloan McCrea (1889-1978) devoted herself to the important mission of serving the blind. We extend our thanks to Alicia Celrio, Jetty Loretta Susi and Alma Weintraub, and to Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, our Board Directors and Honorary Board Directors who were recognized as volunteers of the year. A heartfelt thanks to David B. McCrea for his continued sponsorship of this signature event that honors the spirit of volunteerism.



Miami Lighthouse Board Directors left to right: Board Chair Charles Nielson, CEO Virginia Jacko, Chair-Elect Steven Solomon, Board Members Stacey Jones, Peter Harrison, Frank Voytek and Robin Shelley



Lions Club representatives left to right: James Campbell, Barbara Campbell, Elisabeth Fisher, CEO Virginia Jacko, Stacey Jones, Harry Magee, and Adita Vazquez



Volunteers of the Year: Jetty Loretta Susi, Diana Cheng, Alma Weintraub and CEO Virginia Jacko



Rotary Representatives left to right: Board Director Robin Shelley, Susan Shelley, CEO Virginia Jacko, Rotary District Governor Michael Kesti, Noreen Timoney, Norby Rudel, Maria Rudel, and Board Director Frank Voytek

White Cane Day

Friday, October 14, 2022, marked another highly successful National White Cane Day Walk for Miami Lighthouse. More than 150 Miami Lighthouse program participants, advocates for White Cane Safety Laws, and community leaders joined us in our walk through the streets near Miami Lighthouse including Calle Ocho. The iconic Calle



2022 White Cane Day

Ocho symbolizes the many achievements of our community just as the "white cane" stands as the symbol of independence for the blind and visually impaired. Like accessible technology, the white cane is an essential tool that gives blind people the ability to achieve productive and independent lives - it allows them to move freely and safely, from place to place whether at work, at school, or around our communities.

We thank everyone who joined us to celebrate and who ensured a successful event through in-kind donations, event underwriting, sponsorship, and more, including our emcee Jammin' Johnny Caride from EL ZOL 106.7 FM, lunch sponsor McDonald's, Uber, Florida Blue Medicare, OrCam, Meraki Wellness & Healing Inc., Vispero, Tracfone, Tropical Financial Credit Union, Ambutech, 2VDG Jane Colona and many others.

SAVE THE DATE!

Music Under the Stars
 Wednesday, May 24th, 2023
 at 6:00 p.m.
 at Miami Lighthouse



Saturday, January 27, 2024
 at The Biltmore Hotel



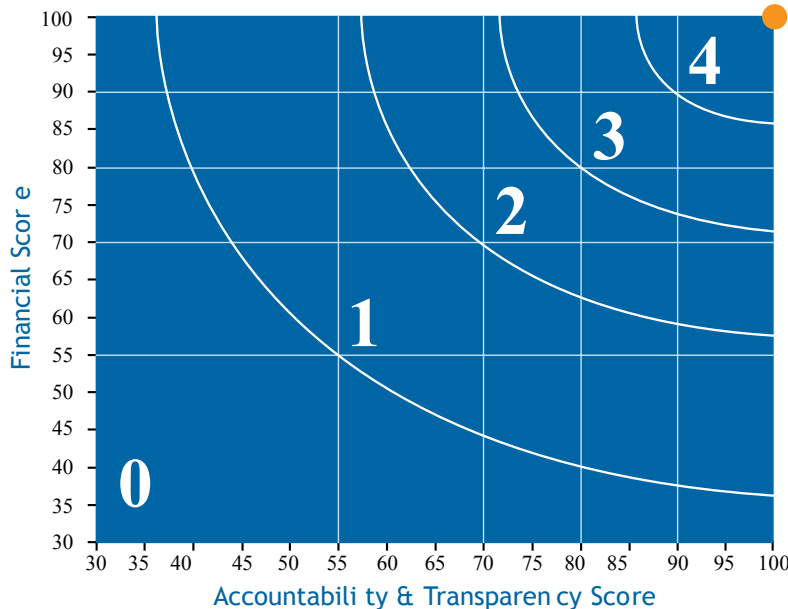
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CURRENT CHARITY NAVIGATOR SCORES

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired has received 13 consecutive 4-star ratings, the highest rating possible, from the nation's premier independent nonprofit evaluator Charity Navigator. Only 1% of the charities rated by Charity Navigator have received 13 consecutive 4-star ratings indicating that Miami Lighthouse outperforms most other charities in America.



	SCORE (out of 100)	RATING
OVERALL	100.00	★★★★★
• Financial	100.00	★★★★★
• Accountability & Transparency	100.00	★★★★★



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

CHARITY NAVIGATOR ENCOMPASS BEACONS

ACCOUNTABILITY AND FINANCE 100%

This beacon provides an assessment of a charity's financial health (financial efficiency, sustainability and trustworthiness) and its commitment to governance practices and policies.

LEADERSHIP AND ADAPTABILITY 100%

This beacon provides an assessment of the organization's leadership capacity, strategic thinking and planning, and ability to innovate or respond to changes in constituent demand/need or other relevant social and economic conditions to achieve the organization's mission.

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY 100%

This beacon provides an assessment of the organization's culture and connectedness to the community it serves.

CONTACT US: General Information: 305-856-2288

Low Vision or Vision Rehabilitation Services: 786-362-7479 • Senior Case Manager: 786-362-7445

Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) Collaborative Center: 786-636-6498

Visit our website: www.miamilighthouse.org