



contact: Virginia A. Jacko
305-856-2288 ext. 226

**MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE KIDS TO PERFORM SONGS FROM NEW CD “IT’S
NOT IMPOSSIBLE” AT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FOR HOMELESS
Live MLK Day Performance Will Salute the Late Alvah Chapman**

MIAMI—January 7, 2009—Teen musicians, participants in the Miami Lighthouse music program, will perform live at 10:30 a.m. Monday, January 19, Martin Luther King Day, at Community Partnership for Homeless. An audience of hundreds of homeless children and adults are expected in the courtyard at 1550 N. Miami Avenue.

The outdoor performance will feature talented blind and visually impaired teenagers such as Natalia Sulca of Michael Krop Senior High, Furious Berrain of Miami Northwestern Senior High and Matthew Smith a recent graduate of Miami Springs who is attending Miami Dade College and Mirna Garcia, who recently graduated from Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School.

“These talented blind young adults performing with their sighted peers typifies our diversity as we celebrate the Martin Luther King holiday by these kids volunteering to perform for Community Partnership for Homeless,” said Miami Lighthouse CEO Virginia Jacko. “Nothing is impossible for them in fulfilling their dreams, just like the example set by Dr. Martin Luther King.” The Miami Lighthouse for the Blind Music Inclusion Program is funded by the Children’s Trust and is the only program of its kind in the United States.

The new CD *It's Not Impossible*, released in December and the second one produced solely in the state-of-the-art music production facility at Miami Lighthouse, typifies the eclectic nature of the kids and their unbeatable spirit. The teen musicians express their diversity and individuality through original songs that they write and perform themselves, while the skills they learn in the nationally-acclaimed Miami

Lighthouse music program will lead to mainstream employment in the music industry

The Miami Lighthouse performance is a memorial tribute to Alvah Chapman, retired chairman of Knight Ridder and philanthropist, who died recently. Helping the homeless was one of Mr. Chapman's favored charitable causes, and he was Founding Chairman of Community Partnership for Homeless in 1993. Community Partnership for Homeless, the private sector partner of the Miami Dade County Homeless Trust, assists homeless men, women and children in transitioning off the streets of Miami-Dade County and attaining greater stability and self-sufficiency. The organization is recognized as a national model for helping the homeless.

It's Not Impossible may be purchased through the Miami Lighthouse Solutions Store by calling 305-856-9100.

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Miami Lighthouse for the Blind is Florida's largest and oldest agency serving the blind and visually impaired. In addition to providing free vision care to thousands of financially disadvantaged children each year, Miami Lighthouse each month helps more than one thousand blind and visually impaired people and their families learn to live safe and independent lives while coping with vision loss. For more information visit www.miamilighthouse.org. To schedule a tour call 305-856-2288, ext. 226.

MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE MISSION STATEMENT:

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