



PRESS RELEASE

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MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE PROVIDES SIGHTED GUIDE TRAINING FOR
RESTAURANTS PARTICIPATING IN LIGHT'S OUT MIAMI BEACH

MIAMI - October 20, 2010 - Imagine dining in the dark, being guided to your table and having someone tell you what is on your plate. This is what participants will experience at Lights Out Miami Beach on Wednesday, October 20, 2010. Prior to the event, a Miami Lighthouse Orientation and Mobility Specialist will provide training on Sighted Guide skills to employees and owners of the **eleven** restaurants on Miami Beach participating in the "Dining in the Dark" event. Restaurant staff will learn how to safely guide participants to their designated tables and to orient individuals to where items are located on the table as well as on their plates. Every day Orientation and Mobility specialists at Miami Lighthouse teach family and friends of blind and visually impaired program participants these same skills. Miami Lighthouse CEO Virginia Jacko said, "**Lights Out Miami Beach**" is a wonderful opportunity for Miami Lighthouse to educate restaurant personnel about how to assist their blind and visually impaired patrons since with our aging population the number of low vision restaurant patrons is expected to double by 2020."

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Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired is located at 601 S.W. 8th Avenue, Miami, FL 33130. Since 1931, Miami Lighthouse has provided vital rehabilitation and low vision services and training to give blind and visually impaired people of all ages hope, confidence and independence. In 2009 Miami Lighthouse received its third consecutive a four-star rating, the highest rating, from Charity Navigator the independent evaluator of not-for-profits in recognition of its fiscal responsibility. This rating reflects Miami Lighthouse's continued stewardship and places it among the elite 13% of not-for-profit organizations nationwide to achieve such a distinction. The rating is based on 2009 financial statements. Visit www.miamilighthouse.org for more information.

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.*

