



**CORAL GABLES COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$5,000 GRANT TO
MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR ITS BETTER CHANCE MUSIC PROGRAM**

MIAMI—November 14, 2014—The Coral Gables Community Foundation has awarded Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired a \$5,000 grant to benefit our Better Chance Music Program which enables blind and visually impaired musicians to learn music production and the business of music along with their sighted peers..

In addition to Miami Lighthouse’s music program, Coral Gables residents benefit from programs such as blind babies early intervention and rehabilitation for children up to the age of 14, vocational rehabilitation for teenagers and adults, independent living skills and senior health and group activities, low vision assessments and rehabilitation for adults affected by age-related vision disease, and eye wellness services for financially disadvantaged children provided through our mobile optometric clinics and in-office network of optometrists. Miami Lighthouse has provided services for over 100 residents of Coral Gables over the past 12 months.

Recently, one of our Better Chance Music Program participants, who is from Coral Gables, graduated from the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music. He is currently learning music technology utilizing Miami Lighthouse’s state-of-the art Musical Instrument Digital Interface computer system. Despite being blind, his goal is to own his own music studio and continue his career in the music industry.

Providing blind music students with the tools to become independent, music training that paves the way to acceptance at post-secondary institutions, and technical skills to prepare them for employment in the mainstream music industry are the goals of our Better Chance Music Program. The grant from the Coral Gables Community Foundation will help us achieve these goals.

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MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE MISSION STATEMENT:

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

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