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Caps off to our graduates



This graduation season, we want to toss our caps to all our Miami Lighthouse graduates, not only those in our Miami Lighthouse Academy but those in other programs such as, our Job Readiness Program graduate, Ramona Moore.

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Ramona was just 41 when she suffered a stroke that left her completely blind and put her career as a property manager in jeopardy. In addition to extensive physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy to help overcome partial paralysis caused by the stroke, she found a new calling at Miami Lighthouse: completing her college

education and re-entering the workforce in the health field to give back to others.

Since first attending Miami Lighthouse in 2015, Ramona has now completed her bachelor's in psychology at Florida International University and is currently enrolled in the

Rehabilitation Counseling Master's program. "I want to help others with disabilities like me find work they are passionate about and lead fulfilling lives," says Ramona.

Congratulations to the class of 2021. Learn more about how to <u>support and empower</u> more students like Ramona to build a more inclusive workforce by clicking <u>here</u>.

Transition students experience the amazing OrCam

Three of our Pre-Employment Transition Services students, Emily, Diandre, and Marnel, have each received an OrCam device thanks to Miami Lighthouse. OrCam is the portable, wearable, lightweight smart camera for blind and visually impaired individuals that reads printed or digital text aloud and identifies faces, products, and paper money in real time.

Diandre said, "I have an interest in the law and helping people out. I want to be a lawyer. I think this OrCam is really going to help me achieve that goal."

According to Marnel, "The OrCam has allowed me to be more productive in life. Not only has it allowed me to be more efficient in my work, I now have the opportunity to compete in a fast-paced work environment where the size of the print does not dictate the quality and value of my work."



Emily said, "The OrCam has been a great change in my life and [will positively impact] my future."

Are you interested in an OrCam device? Call us at 786-362-7489 or Shop Online at LighthouseShop.org

Miami Lighthouse leads the way to corporate website accessibility

Miami Lighthouse held a highly successful Website Accessibility Seminar on June 15th that featured a panel of experts to explain how and why business, corporate and professional websites need to be fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. The seminar was attended both in-person and virtually via Zoom. Panelists included Robert Fine, Esq., a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and disability rights attorney; Virginia

Jacko, President and CEO of Miami Lighthouse; Bill Rivera, Miami Lighthouse's Technology Director, and Jorge Hernandez, Miami Lighthouse's Technology Manager.

Our thanks go to our partners in this important project, Greater Miami Beach Hotel Association, Greater Miami Convention & Visitor's Bureau, and Miami-Dade Beacon Council. The issue of website accessibility for the disabled is a topic being actively explored in state and federal courtrooms across the United States, as well as in legislative updates of the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Website Accessibility Seminar

Contact us at 786-362-7505 if you or someone you know needs a website audit!

Miami Lighthouse hosts Legislative Luncheon

Join us at our Miami Lighthouse Legislative Luncheon on Wednesday, July 14th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on our campus, located at 601 SW 8th Avenue.

The complimentary luncheon, sponsored by Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, will provide attendees with the opportunity to network with local elected officials, Miami Lighthouse Board Directors, and other community leaders. Guests will enjoy a special performance by our Miami Lighthouse Music Program students and a tour of our award-winning facility where they will witness firsthand how Miami Lighthouse is using technology to level the playing field for the blind and visually impaired.

RSVP to Cameron Sisser by email at <u>csisser@miamilighthouse.org</u> to attend and find out how you can make an impact on our blind community.



In the News:

<u>Miami's Community News, June 21, 2021 – "Miami Lighthouse for the Blind now accepting cryptocurrency donations"</u>

Johnson & Johnson Vision, June 2, 2021 – "Johnson & Johnson is committed to helping individuals and communities around the world manage the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19"

South Florida Hospital News, May 20, 2021 – "Miami Lighthouse For The Blind Accepting Cryptocurrency Donations"

Read more!

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