Happy New Year to all.

2015 was an exciting year for Miami Lightbank, and 2016 promises even more new initiatives to look forward to. Lightbank’s new Miami Lightbank Learning Center for Children, the Colonial Life Foundation Children’s Performing Arts Center, opened its doors in May 2015 with the announcement during the ceremony of the Nelson Family’s $1 million gift to our Lightbank Learning Center. It is a major step forward in our development plans.

The new playground will provide a creative and safe outdoor environment for our youngest, whose enrollment in the program has quadrupled from 35 students to 60 in the past five years. Attendees included Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez, Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Alberto官方, State Senator Annette Taddeo, and Speaker of the City of Miami Mayor, Francis Suarez.

The gift was officially presented during a Florida Panthers game at the BB&T Center in Sunrise when the Panthers faced off against the Chicago Blackhawks. During the game a moving video about Lightbank and one of our Miami Lightbank programs was shown, which can be viewed at :

Contributed by Alan Spektor

Florida Panthers Foundation assures eye care services for low-income children.

We are delighted to be partnering with the Florida Panthers Foundation to improve the quality of eye care services for the growing number of children who lack access to eye care and vision insurance. The Panthers Foundation will be supporting the expansion of one of Miami Lightbank’s four mobile units and to increase capacity, upgrade equipment and deliver the highest level of care to children awaiting eye examinations.

The Hawks mobile vision units travel across the state of Florida providing optometrists who donate their time and services to many clients from low-income families. The increased mobile units and extended hours will improve the eye care experience for the Florida Panthers and the community.

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