Philanthropist Gives One Million Dollar Challenge in Memory of Sash A. Spencer at Miami Lighthouse Luncheon

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired accepted the first $250,000 installment of the “One Million Dollar Challenge in Memory of Sash A. Spencer,” an incentive matching gift from philanthropist Mary M. Spencer at the elegant 41st Annual “Share the Vision” fundraising luncheon November 12 at Loews Coral Gables Country Club. “Miami Lighthouse is so grateful to Mary for her generous gift, which will transform many lives,” said Miami Lighthouse CEO Virginia Jacks.

One of South Florida’s most generous philanthropists and community leaders attended this extraordinary luncheon, generously underwritten by Breister Trust, which raised $350,000 for programs and services offered to blind and visually impaired children and adults. Guests enjoyed great wine from The River Wines and beautiful table centerpieces designed by Epicure Events which incorporated handmade ceramic pieces created by Miami Lighthouse blind and visually impaired children and adults.

There wasn’t a dry eye in the room when Natasha Sulza, 16 year old current client in the Miami Lighthouse Transition and Mobility Program, stood up to address the crowd. She said she would like to be a chef when she grows up and asked everyone to support Miami Lighthouse. She is a bright, shining light for the future.

Gloria Martin, Lou Nisto and Mary M. Spencer

Virginia Jacks and Kirk Landon

Penny Stampa, Camella Witt and Virginia Jacks

Margarita Torkinson, Carol Rueso, Barbara Weinkraut, Sally Ryd and Richard Torkinson

Gloria Martin, Virginia Jacks, Nancy Jean Davix, Martha Hollos and Eugenia Mohammed

Dawn Freed, Bill Roy and Dr. Alan Lewitt

Marla Bergmann, Virginia Jacks, Arthur Hertz and Carmen Bertanzu-Lewis

Florence Hecht, Commissioner Joe Sanchez and Lois Lewin

Inez Stone, Henry Stone, Harold Petluck and Anita Petluck

Dawn Freed, Sheila Freed, Virginia Jacks, Nedra Kalish and Judi Matus

Carmen Bishopric, Ethley Brown, Karl Bishopric, Caron Cole

Owen Freed, Natasha Sulza, Helen Mopisk and Colton Mopisk

Murray Heiken, Rosalyn Heiken, Jackie Blumenthal, Ed Blumenthal and Eric Stein

David M. Turner, Virginia Jacks, Malcolm B. Wiseheart, Shelley B. Rutherford

Lisa Kasten and Donna Aboud

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