

technology

Lighthouse is Only A Click Away At New Website

The first phase of a new and improved Miami Lighthouse website is providing clients, friends and the community easier access to information about the agency.

The new site lists services, events, support and contact information in clear, simple-to-navigate menus. Most important, the site was designed for easy use by individuals who are blind or visually impaired. All content is available in a text-only format, which is easily accessed by software that "reads" what is on the screen. The website was created by **BizSolutions**, a local web consulting and software development firm.

"This is just the beginning of what will be a tremendous addition to the many services offered by the Lighthouse," said President and CEO Roxann Mayros.

Future phases of the site will include an option for online financial donations, a Spanish-language edition and plans to put the items from the Solutions store online. This would allow a customer to shop and purchase the latest low vision aids or other adaptive equipment.

Plan to visit the Lighthouse site often at www.miamilighthouse.org. New additions and updates will be made regularly.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesdays & Thursdays through June 2004

Tools for Change: Entrepreneurship - evening classes

Saturday, April 17th

Family Support Day with NAPVI President

Sunday, April 25th

Focus Season Kick-Off

Wednesday, April 28th

Spanish Family Meeting

Tuesday, May 18

Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Ophthalmology Residents and Fellows Reception

Monday, June 21

STAR (Summer Training and Recreation) Program begins

Monday, June 21 SKIL

(Summer Keys to Independent Living) Program begins

Tuesday, June 22

SEE (Summer Employment Experience Program) begins

Please contact Miami

Lighthouse at

305.856.2288 for more

details on these and

other events.

If you know someone who is blind or visually impaired who can benefit from our services, please contact Dr. Elly du Pré at 305.856.2288, ext. 234.

Wish list is your opportunity to help

The Lighthouse Wish List allows friends of the agency to donate specific needed items or the funds to purchase goods and services. For more information, contact the Development Office (305) 856-2288.

Needed item	COST
Blindfolds for in-service demonstrations (10 @ \$8)	\$ 80
Educational toys (tactile & auditory functions)	100
Solar shields kit	185
DVD player for in-service training	300
Computer projector	1,500
Portable low vision kit	1,750
STAR Scholarships for one child (Summer Training & Recreation)	4,050

Visit Us Online at www.miamilighthouse.org

board

Donna R. Blaustein Takes the Helm of Lighthouse Board

Donna R. Blaustein, Esq., a community leader and attorney specializing in estate planning, has been named Chair of the Lighthouse Board for 2004-05. Mrs. Blaustein has served on the Board since 1996 and succeeds D. Alan Nichols.

A resident of Miami Beach, Mrs. Blaustein practices at her own law office in Aventura. She is a frequent teacher, lecturer and author on probate matters and estate planning. She received her law degree from the University of Maryland and a Masters in Estate Planning from the University of Miami.

In addition to her volunteer work with Miami Lighthouse, she also serves on the Boards of Temple Beth Shalom, the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and Mount Sinai Medical Center.



(L-R) New Board Chair Donna R. Blaustein with husband Arnold and Lighthouse President & CEO Roxann Mayros.

giving

Include People, Property and Plans When Writing Will or Reviewing Estate

Where do you start when planning your estate? The complex process can be made simpler by making sure you include your **three P's: People, Property and Plans.**

PEOPLE

While each circumstance is unique, most lives are shaped by their lifelong relationships with others. Your list may include spouse, children, grandchildren, parents, friends and, of course, don't forget your pets. Beyond these, remember the charitable organizations that have made a difference in your life and those of your loved ones, such as the **Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired.**

PROPERTY

Your property includes all the assets you have accumulated, regardless of form. Have you recently inventoried and valued your property? If you haven't, you will send your loved ones on a very unpleasant and time-consuming treasure hunt.

A Letter From Donna R. Blaustein, Esq.

I am honored to have been chosen to serve as Chair of the Lighthouse Board and excited by the prospect of working closely with an extremely dedicated and supportive Executive Board, Committee Chairs and members, Board of Directors and professional staff.

All of us have the same goals in mind as volunteers - to enable the professional staff to provide the services that are needed by individuals who are blind and visually impaired so they can lead independent and fulfilling lives.

We all believe that growth is important and we must continue to identify and seek answers to future challenges. We recognize that the world of blind services is changing and that, as a modern organization, we must change and develop to exist successfully in that world. Clearly, in order to provide the best, we need funds. Our Board will be looking into new sources of funding and expanding existing sources. Under the leadership of our President and CEO, we are upgrading the quality of our staff, exploring the best in programming and services, and adding to and expanding our existing facility.

We cannot rest on our past accomplishments but must build on them while looking for new opportunities to serve the needs of our clients and community. I look forward to the challenges of the coming year.

Donna R. Blaustein

PLANS

One of the most important steps you can take is the selection of your successor decision-makers in the event of your death or incapacity. Your successors would likely continue to manage your property. Perhaps a professional successor decision-maker, such as a trust company or a certified public accountant would be best for your situation.

The failure to make and maintain proper estate plans for the important people and special charitable organizations in your life can lead to unpleasant and unintended consequences. Seek qualified legal counsel should you wish to review your people, property and plans.

If you would like to include the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in your will, please contact the Development Department at (305) 856-2288.

Excerpted from the estate planning newsletter from the law Offices of Richard Alan Lehrman, Esq.

profile

Alliance For Human Services Supports Lighthouse Elder Rehabilitation Programs

The more than 36,000 elders who are blind or visually impaired in Miami-Dade will benefit from a recent grant from the Alliance for Human Services, a coalition of foundations and social service providers from throughout the county. The organization recognizes that the fast growing population of people over age 65 is the largest source of new blindness in South Florida.

“This grant reinforces one of this agency’s traditional strengths: providing rehabilitation services for blind and visually impaired seniors with the goal of maintaining independence,” said Dr. Elly du Pré, Director of Adult Services.

Vision rehabilitation and training for elders experiencing vision loss is essential in maintaining independence. While most age-related visual problems do not cause total loss of eyesight, they do dramatically effect lifestyle and can lead to depression and other physical problems.

Specialized Lighthouse programs that teach daily living skills, orientation and mobility, travel skills, communication and computers all help elders and their families understand that vision loss does not mean a loss of independence.

Added Dr. du Pré, “Our programs emphasize that seniors with vision loss can live at home and continue making valuable contributions to the life of family and community.”

Alliance for Human Services

The Alliance for Human Services is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the allocation of scarce resources for health and social services in Miami-Dade. The group is comprised of major funders of health and social services as well as representatives from the business community, service providers, consumers, caregivers, advocates and faith-based organizations.

The Alliance for Human Services was founded to streamline the complex maze of funding sources for important social and health programs to insure that community needs are being met.

The organization hopes to develop a unified masterplan for health and human service needs in Miami-Dade County. That plan will maximize the use of each dollar spent on services, provide guidance to local public and private funding agencies and track and measure improvements in the quality of life in Miami-Dade. The Alliance president is Ruth Shack, Chair of the Dade Community Foundation and president-elect is Hodding Carter III of the John S. & James L. Knight Foundation.

outreach

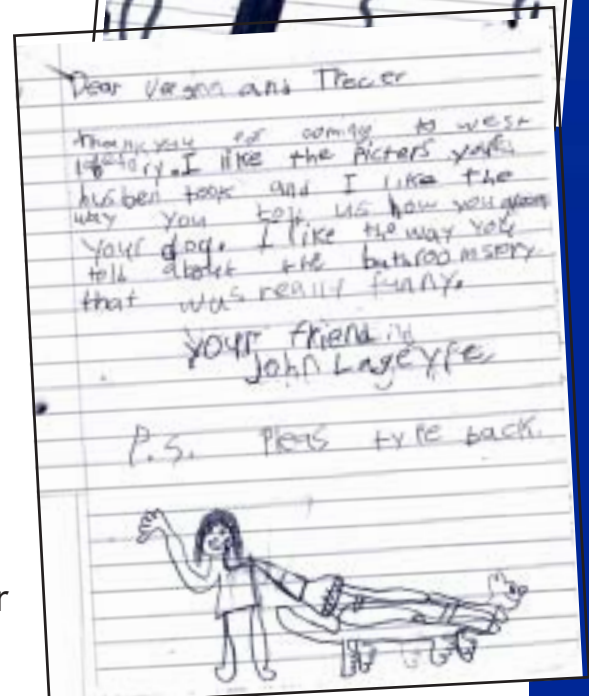
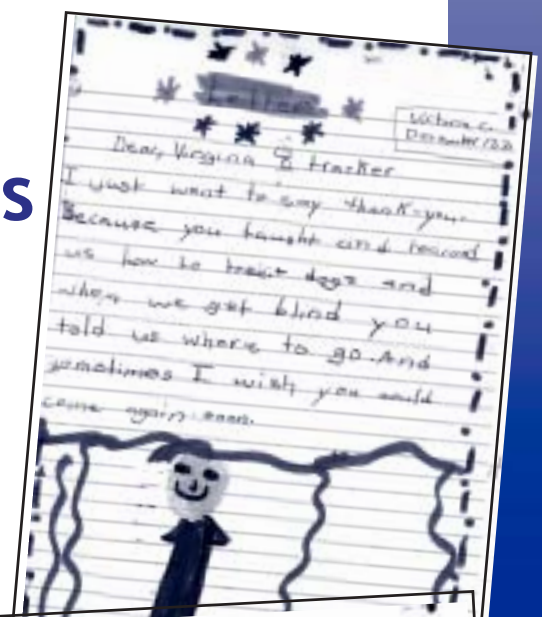
Former Client Virginia Jacko Spreads the Lighthouse Message

When speaking before rapt audiences, Virginia Jacko always talks about her “new vision.” That new vision is the one she gained after losing her sight to retinitis pigmentosa and then becoming a client at Miami Lighthouse. That vision includes learning the skills and confidence to live independently. Now, Virginia impresses children and adults as a regular speaker before school classrooms, civic clubs, scout troops and health care groups.

Even as her sight began to deteriorate, Virginia continued to excel in her position as business manager at Purdue University in Indiana, overseeing a \$200 million budget and managing a staff of 45. Two years ago, Virginia relocated to Miami and became a client of Miami Lighthouse. She became aware of the agency’s programs because her daughter was a professor at FIU and involved in a retinitis pigmentosa research study with Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and Miami Lighthouse.

Miami Lighthouse training gave Virginia new computer and Braille skills as well as instruction on daily living and mobility. Virginia also traveled to New York to attend dog guide school. She returned to Miami with her dog guide, Tracker, who is naturally a hit with Virginia’s youthful audiences.

As ambassadors for blindness and Miami Lighthouse, Virginia and Tracker emphasize how their training has given them a “new leash on life.”



diagnosis

Q & A - Macular Degeneration

Macular degeneration can result in central vision loss. In the U.S., it is the leading cause of blindness among those over age 65.

What is macular degeneration?

In macular degeneration, the light-sensing cells of the macula mysteriously malfunction and may over time cease to work. Macular degeneration occurs most often in people over 60 years old, called age related macular degeneration (ARMD). Much less common other forms usually affect children or teenagers.

What does the disease do to vision?

The macula, the central portion of the retina directly opposite the lens, is affected by macular degeneration. If this important area of the retina is damaged, the ability to see fine detail and color may be lost. The principal symptom of macular degeneration is reduction or loss of central vision, with retention of peripheral vision.

How is macular degeneration diagnosed?

Doctors have developed many tests to diagnose macular degeneration. Major symptoms may include: when viewing a grid, some lines may appear straight, some lines wavy and other areas of the grid appear blank; loss of visual acuity and color sensitivity; evidence obtained by doctors during ophthalmic exams and photographs of the retina.

What is wet and dry macular degeneration?

About 85 - 90 percent of cases are the dry form of the disease, in which yellowish spots called drusen appear on the macula. The other cases are the wet form, so called because of leakage into the retina from newly forming blood vessels behind the retina. The cause is unknown. When those blood vessels proliferate, they leak, and cells in the macula are damaged and killed.

Information courtesy of the National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health.



At left is a scene viewed by someone with normal vision.



Here is the same scene viewed by someone with age-related macular degeneration.

What is laser photocoagulation?

Laser photocoagulation is a technique used by ophthalmic surgeons to treat a number of conditions, including leakage that damages the macula. At present, it is the only treatment which has been proven effective for any form of macular degeneration and it is successful only in stopping or slowing leakage and the process of the disease in some cases. Only about half of patients with the wet form are candidates for laser photocoagulation. When effective, the benefit lasts on the average about one year

What is hereditary macular degeneration?

Hereditary macular degeneration, better known as juvenile macular degeneration (JMD) is suspected when MD occurs in more than one relatively young member of a family, and in more than one generation of that family. This much less common disease affects children and young adults.

solutions

New Device Identifies Money and Colors

A versatile and compact pocket-sized reader will identify U.S. currency as well as colors. The new *Voice-It-All* will read \$1 through \$100 bills simply by sliding the currency into the battery-operated unit and pushing a button. The *Voice-It-All* will also identify colors and will operate as a voice recorder. There is volume control and automatic shut-off to conserve battery power.

The easy-to-use, reasonably-priced device comes with instructions on tape. For more information, contact Solutions at Miami Lighthouse (305) 856-2288 ext. 239.



happenings

'Blind Date' Theater Event Benefits Lighthouse

Nearly 100 friends and supporters of Miami Lighthouse recently attended a reception and opening weekend theatrical premiere that raised nearly \$10,000 for the agency. *Blind Date*, a critically-acclaimed play by Carbonell Award winner Mario Diament, was the centerpiece of the evening. The drama follows chance encounters between two men - one sighted and one blind - leading to life-changing events. The benefit also included a gourmet wine and cuisine reception at Mariposa of

Neiman Marcus, just blocks from the New Theatre. The Palm Restaurant generously donated its signature cheesecake and coffee for a second reception during intermission.

Other sponsors included Village of Merrick Park, CreativeXpressions, Home Depot, Southern Wine & Spirits and Victoria's Plant Design. On the organizing committee were Pat Kracht and Honorary Board members Don Marx and Jackie Bueno Sousa.

Blind Concert Pianist Performs at Lighthouse



Lighthouse clients, staff and visitors recently received a special treat when blind piano virtuoso Tamás Érdi performed an afternoon concerto in the gallery. Érdi, from Budapest, Hungary, is an internationally renowned artist who was in Miami as part of a North American tour. Érdi, 24, who has been blind since birth, performed several expressive Chopin pieces. His visit to the Lighthouse was organized by Center for Emerging Art (CEA).



(L-R) Lighthouse President and CEO Roxann Mayros and Board Chair Donna Blaustein present a plaque to New Theatre Managing Director Eileen Suarez and Executive Artistic Director Rafael de Acha.



Luis and Jackie Bueno Sousa (L) and Jim and Pat Kracht.

honors

Sept. 1, 2003 - Jan. 31, 2004

Make a Living Tribute to that special person in your life. A notice of your gift will be sent to those being honored.

IN HONOR OF ...

Dr. Lilian Abraham
Dr. and Mrs. Charles B. Mutter

Ms. Isabel U. Arguelles
Ms. Julia I. Gurri

Mrs. Arvilla Berger
Mrs. Marcella Ungar Werblow

Mr. Elisa Chenard
Mr. and Mrs. Vicente Tome

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Draluck
Dr. & Mrs. Jay S. Paulen

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Genet
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Teitler

Mr. Arthur Goldsmith
Mr. and Mrs. Morris I. Weiss

Dr. Lawrence Kessler
Mr. and Mrs. Morris I. Weiss

Mr. Fred Kight
Mr. John L. Ballou
Ms. Leila Kight

Ms. Mildred G. Lassman
Mrs. Charlotte Cohen

McArteer and Delany Families
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Delany

Mr. Vernon Metcalf
Mr. and Mrs. Donato G. Arguelles

Ms. Dorothy Meyers
Dr. and Mrs. Samuel P. Meyers

Mr. Irving Miller
Ms. Julia Weisberg

Ms. Audrey Mills
Ms. Laurel Galpin

Loving cousin
Ms. Joan B. O'Connor

Mrs. Beulah Perskin
Mrs. Charlotte Cohen

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Porter
Ms. Karen Fryd

Mr. Noah Reines
Ms. Karen Fryd

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Roth
Mr. Robert Brant
Mr. and Mrs. David Rothenberg

In honor of her 50th wedding anniversary
Mrs. Selma Sacks

Ms. Gyneth Schenk
Ms. Mazie Donolow

Mrs. Dolores Steffine
Mr. and Mrs. John Talamas

Ms. Fay Ablin Stein
Ms. Ruth Neinken

In honor of her birthday
Ms. Bernice W. Walker

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Weiss and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wruble
Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Wruble

memorials

Sept. 1, 2003 - Jan. 31, 2004

A gift to Miami Lighthouse in loving memory of a late relative or friend makes a lasting remembrance. The family will receive notification of your legacy.

IN MEMORY OF ...

Mr. Jack Albaugh

Ms. L. Jane Borick
Mrs. Vivian Cashman
Ms. Mary Ann Franqueira
Ms. Margaret B. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Metcalf
Whiddon-Rogers Education Center
First Church of Christ Scientist, Aventura, FL

Ms. Sophie Alpert

Ms. Betty Schwartz

Ms. Carmen Alvarez

Mrs. Lillian M. Fimiani

Mr. Bennet Applebaum

Mr. W. Sloan McCrea
McCrea Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Metcalf

Ms. Judy Helip &

Ms. Ruth Arafe

Ms. Mildred Houlis

Mr. Conrad B. Arnold

Dr. James R. Harding
Mr. and Mrs. Levent Sever

Mr. and Mrs Conrad B.

Arnold

Ms. Jan Millsap

Ms. Zoila M. Concheso

Ms. Maria T. Concheso and
Mr. George F. Valle

Mr. Hector Cruz

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Moreno
Mr. James Stewart

Mr. Eugene Damon

Ms. Joyce Bryan
Ms. Jane C. Heuperman

Ms. Mable Fatheree

Coral Rebekah Lodge 13 I OOF

Ms. Dorothy Fenchuk

East West Properties
Foundation

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Mrs. Alice L. Fernandez

Ms. Maria Fernandez

Mr. and Mrs. Morton Silverblatt

Ms. Debbie Flamm

Mr. Emidio De Dominicis
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Draluck

Her mother

Ms. Raquel Fuster

Ms. Thea Gadofsky

Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Wruble

Ms. Beatrice Gulkis

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Schulberg

Mrs. Grace Gwynne

Ms. Iola J. Anderson
Mr. Billy E. Camden
Ms. Margaret A. Crawford
Ms. Peter Deiser
Ms. Debra R. Diegel
Mr. Arthur Gwynne

Mr. Irving Haller

Mrs. Bernice Haller

Ms. Belle Harris

Mrs. Helen Harris

Mrs. Judith Arango

Henderson

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Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Hattler
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Dr. Evlin Kinney

Ms. Lurana H. Cook
Mr. Walter B. Flesner, III
Mrs. Anita J. Gay
Ms. Neca Logan

Ms. Mary W. Kohl

Mrs. Doris Dalrymple

Ms. Nelly Leon

Mrs. Carmen Almeyda

Beloved husband

Mrs. Rosalyn Leventhal

Mr. Irving Levy

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Askenas

Mr. William Long

Ms. Sylvia Blount

Ms. Lucila Lopez

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Oller
Mr. Manny Malter
Mrs. Ellen Grapin

Mr. Robert Margulis

Mr. Alvin L. Brown, C.P.A.

Ms. Adela Maruri

Mr. and Mrs. Angel Maruri

Mr. Robert M. Mitchell

Mr. James G. Porter

Mr. Juan Montalvan

Mr. Manuel Boronat

Mr. Jacinto Montero

Ms. Lourdes Aguilera

Ms. Catalina G. Palomares

Mr. Manuel R. Bode
Mr. and Mrs. Jorge Goytisolo

Ms. Angelica Pena

Ms. Zulima D. Medina

Ms. Margurite Pitisci

Mr. Robert H. Hurt

Ms. Marion Pokress

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Weiss
Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Wruble

Ms. Sandra D. Radin

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hirsch
Ms. Nelly Rodriguez-Blanch
Ms. Maria Fernandez

Mr. Benedict G. Rucker

Ms. Phyllis Rothstein

Ms. Maria Saldana

Ms. Maria Lopez

Ms. Yona Sommer

Mr. John Sommer

Ms. Rose Spector

Ms. Flora Dickson

Ms. Rose Srybnik

Mrs. Phyllis S. Lehman

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Mr. Jerome Braude
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Ms. Barbara P. Armstrong
Dr. Richard J. Bagby
Ms. Sylvia Blount
Judge Joseph Nesbitt
Ms. Rosemary D. Stieglitz
Sunny Investments

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Ms. Janette Scherr
Mr. and Mrs. William L.
Sheppard, Jr.

Ms. Gilda Williams

Ms. Patricia Kelly

W. E. Winter

Mrs. Teresa Guzman

Mr. Harold L. Young, Sr.

Mr. Harold L. Young, Jr.

donors

Sept. 1, 2003 - Jan. 31, 2004

\$25,000 and above

The Milton G. Mueller Revocable Trust
Estate of Lucille Wilkinson

\$10,000 to 24,999

Ida Hutzler Charitable Trust
McCrea Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Olga Nielson
Jack Taylor Family Foundation

\$5,000 to 9,999

Dr. and Mrs. Arnold and Donna Blaustein
Calvin & Flavia de Camp Oak Foundation
Albert E. and Esther G. Kaufman Foundation
D. Richard Mead Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. D. Alan and Sue Nichols
Ms. Anna Rentz
Lady Suzanna P. Tweed &
Carlton Tweed Charitable Foundation
Sara H. Woodruff Foundation

\$2,500 to 4,999

Mr. Edward Beyer
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and Elva Brady
Mr. Steven Goldberg
Florman Family Foundation

Genesis Systems Consulting
Robert O. Law Foundation

\$1,000 to 2,499

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt and Jennifer Adler
Arellano Construction
Mr. John Ballou
Mr. and Mrs. Karl and Carmen Bishopric
Mr. Jack Brady
Miss Lamar Louise Curry
Ms. Carlota Chobol
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Jessica DaGrosa
Mr. and Mrs. Roy and Carmela Ferrara
Mr. and Mrs. Willis and Imogene Flick
Ms. Helen Flipse
Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Robin Fox
Mr. Irving Genet
Mr. Juliano Ibarra
Estate of Ramona Inglis
Kelly Foundation, Inc.
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Mr. Jay Lotspeich
Ms. Jane Lukens
Mr. and Mrs. David and Janet McCrea
Perlberg Associates, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack and Audrey Ross
Mr. Donald Sackrider
Mr. Morris Siegel
Mr. Albert Staton

Ms. Lynn Summers
Ms. Dorothy Swift
Wiegand Family Foundation

\$500 to 999

Ms. Carmen Araujo
J. Bloch
Mr. and Mrs. Ramon and Alicia Casas
Mr. Louis Chiavacci
Ms. Ann Coyne
Ms. Suzanne Bonnard
Shutts & Bowen
Mr. Leon Denny
Mr. and Mrs. Adalbert and
Hildegard Friedhoff
Mr. Charles Graham
Mr. Norman Kendall Jones
Mr. Thomas Mark
Ms. Roxann Mayros
Ms. Marcia Pawley
Mr. and Mrs. Preston and Dottie Prevatt
Ms. Alice Spector
Kiwanis Club of Coral Gables
TTL Charitable Trust
Ms. Susan Kelley and Mr. Bill Roy
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and Maria Alemany
Estate of Frederick Reuter

donors

\$250 to 499

Mr. Roberto Cano
Mr. Juan Cobo
Mr. Victor Curtin
Mr. Edward Delany
Dr. Elly du Pré
Mr. B. B. Goldstein
Mr. Jason Grey
Mr. Carter Haas
Mr. and Mrs. William and Jane Heuson
Ms. Elizabeth Hodapp
Mr. Thomas Johnson
Mr. Barry Johnson
Mr. David Kimmelman
Holland & Knight Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. James and Patricia Kracht
Mr. Alan Kyle
Mr. Herbert Legum
Mr. Warren Lindau
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis and Sharon McCarthy
Mr. Carleton Mitchell
Mr. Anthony Rotoli
Mr. Lester Severns
Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Melissa Silva
Sitkin Family Foundation
Ms. Jacqueline Bueno Sousa
Mr. Steven Stern and Ms. Heidi Moskowitz
Mr. Gregorio Toledo
Virgil P. Warren Foundation
Mr. Fred Wright

\$100 to 249

Aetna Foundation
Aranon Corporation
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Ms. Joyce Andrews
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Mr. Glenn Bales
Ms. Helene Barnett
Mr. David Batcheller
Mr. William Benefield
Mr. Pedro Bermann
Mr. George Booth
Mr. Christopher Block
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Mr. Donald Brown
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Mr. Mario Cabrera
Mr. Ray Cacicedo
Ms. Rose Callen
Mr. Jerry Carle
Mr. Henry Castro
Mr. Fred Crawford
Mr. Thomas Dahlan
Mr. John Dalrymple
Mr. George Decarion
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Mr. Robert Downing
Ms. Isabel Downing
Ms. Sara Ellenburg
Ms. Audrey Finkelstein
Mr. Anthony Fitzgerald
Mr. Lincoln Forbes
Mr. Moise Gabrielle
Mr. Arnold Galperin
Ms. Alexandra Garces
Ms. Magdalena Garcia
Mr. Irwin Gartenbaum
Mr. James Gelsomin
Mr. Lester Genser
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Patricia Penenori Dance Center
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Mr. Norberto Priu
Mr. Harvey Raff
Mr. George Ramani
Mr. Irvin Rand
Mr. and Mrs. Cadambi Rangarajan
Ms. Terry Reardon
Ms. Jane Rebozo
Ms. Janet Rose
Mr. Harry Ross
Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Doe Roth
Ms. Carol Russo and Mr. Henry Mangels
Mr. Steven Sagan
Ms. Louella Salhanick
Mr. Ronald Saltzman
Ms. Adele Sandberg
Mr. William Sawyer
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Mr. Allan Schwartz
Mr. Edward Schweitzer
Mr. Fred Segal
Mr. Harper Sibley
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Mr. Irwin Sitkin
Mr. Jorge Smith
Mr. John Stetson
Ms. Marilyn Strauss
The Sobel Family Foundation
Ms. Orieta Suarez
Mr. John Talamas
Mr. Ned Tannebaum
Mr. Kent Tate
Mr. Max Tendrich
Mr. Scott Treeman
The Three Score & Ten Club
West Laboratory School PTO
Ms. Susan Weiss
Mr. William Woodward
Mr. Clyde Wooten
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Norma Whittum
Mr. Jeff Yunis

\$50 to 99

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Ms. Anita Angelica
An-Pe Enterprises, Inc.
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Ms. Janet Bank
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Ms. Betsy Beal
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Ms. Alina Cauce
Ms. Rebecca Conner
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Mr. Albert Chapin
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The Dermer Foundation
Mr. Lloyd Driver
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Mr. Daniel Epstein
Ms. Patricia Ernst
Ms. Marta Escobar
Mr. Julio Falla
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54th Street Medical Plaza
Ms. Sylvia Fishman
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Florida International Land Surveyors
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Mr. Lee Hager
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Mr. Michael Hannau
Mr. Rafael Hernandez
Mr. Jose Hernandez
Mr. Octavio Hidalgo
Ms. Shirley Hing
Mr. Arthur Huttner
Mr. August Jensen
Mr. Thomas Jones
Mr. Everett Jones
Ms. Henrietta Kohn Kahan
Mr. Seymour Keith
Ms. Betty Kessler
Ms. Rita Kiley
Ms. Jean Kilpatrick
Mr. James King
Ms. Shirley Knox
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chronicle

Lighthouse Workshops Support the Troops as War Sweeps the Globe

In the history of both the nation and Miami Lighthouse, 1941 was a pivotal year. Like much of the U.S., the 10-year old Miami agency for the blind had struggled through the depression, but everything was about to change.

With the economy improving in Miami, the Patronesses of the Blind, Dr. Bascom Palmer, the Lions and Rotary Clubs together had raised enough money to finally purchase a permanent home for the Lighthouse. On May 15, 1941, a home "well outside of downtown" on the corner of 8th Avenue and SW 6th Street was dedicated. Parts of the original structure exist within the facility today. Less than seven months later the country was plunged into World War II. Like all Americans, patriotism stirred in blind citizens who wanted to contribute to the war effort. Within 18 months, the Lighthouse had organized sheltered workshops at locations around the county, operating under contracts from the War Department. Some workshops sorted nuts, bolts and rivets that would be used for the construction of aircraft. Others manufactured uniforms, linens, rope, brooms and mops that were used exclusively by the military.

By the end of the war, the workshops had proved successful enough that the Lighthouse kept them operating until the 1970s when the mission of the agency shifted to rehabilitation. But the history of service to the country and of blind individuals playing a positive and productive role in the war effort remains a part of the Lighthouse legacy and a heritage of which the agency can be proud.



Supporters gather in front of the Lighthouse's new home in May of 1941.



Blind workers separate nuts and bolts at a WWII Lighthouse workshop.

The Chronicle column is a regular feature in Lantern. Look for continuing articles on the rich history of the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

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