



Little Havana McDonald's Unveils New Painting by Miami Lighthouse Artists

WHAT: Blind and visually impaired artists from Miami Lighthouse's Social Group Activities (SGA) Program created a tactile mixed media painting, *HAPPY McFRIES*, that will be unveiled at the Little Havana McDonald's, a neighboring location from Miami Lighthouse.

Virginia Jacko, President and CEO of Miami Lighthouse, said, "*HAPPY McFRIES* is a large 36 x 36 tactile mixed media painting made by blind and visually impaired seniors, reinforcing Miami Lighthouse's mission that 'It's possible to see art without sight.' Miami Lighthouse's SGA Program has received local, national and international awards and is leading the way in the creation of tactile mixed media art pieces all having a QR code containing audio description enabling the blind and visually impaired to not only touch and feel the art but to hear about the piece.

The primary goal of the SGA Program is to facilitate independence and enhance socialization skills for older adults with significant and uncorrectable vision loss using arts and crafts, social activities, and health monitoring groups. Arts and crafts improve fine motor skills like dexterity, necessary for Braille comprehension. Miami Lighthouse's trained staff uses various art activities such as painting and ceramics to increase creativity, socialization, and self-esteem.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 24th, at 10:30 am ET

WHERE: Little Havana McDonald's: 1400 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL 33135

WHO: The following will be available for interviews onsite:

Virginia Jacko, President and CEO of Miami Lighthouse

Melissa Montes Blanco, Owner-Operator of AMPY Enterprises, Inc.



HAPPY McFRIES