



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Miami Lighthouse Launches 85th Anniversary Celebration

Braman Family Foundation pledges \$1 Million to Center of Excellence Campaign

MIAMI—Today, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind marked the start of its 85th year serving the blind and visually impaired at the 10th Annual See the Light Luncheon with CEO Jacko announcing that the Braman Family Foundation has pledged \$1 million toward Miami Lighthouse’s new Center of Excellence for Visually Impaired Children. The much needed new space will serve as a pre-kindergarten for blind three- and four-year olds and early intervention center for blind babies.

Keynote speaker Thomas J. Wlodkowski, Comcast Vice President, told the audience about Comcast’s collaboration with Miami Lighthouse to pilot the new Comcast “Talking Guide.” The Spanish language version of the Comcast Talking Guide was unveiled at the luncheon. The innovative new system allows a visually impaired person, using either English or Spanish, to access TV program selection through audio output.

Soroya Rivera-Moya, Executive Director of Ronald McDonald House Charities, presented a check for \$25,000 in support of the Miami Lighthouse Music Program. “Miami Lighthouse has experienced a twenty-four fold client increase since 2004,” said President & CEO Virginia Jacko. “We now serve over 12,000 individuals annually. The funds raised today and the grant from Ronald McDonald House Charities will help meet the increased demand.”

Emceed by Coral Gables Chamber President & CEO, Mark Trowbridge, the event was sponsored by Comcast, Nostro Jones P.A. and GenSpring and was attended by community leaders and philanthropists.

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MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE MISSION STATEMENT:

*To provide vision rehabilitation
and eye health services
that promote independence,
to collaborate with and educate professionals,
and to conduct research in related fields*