



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND OHL ARELLANO CONSTRUCTION HOLD
GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY AT 601 SW8th AVENUE**

MIAMI—July 16, 2013—You’ve read the headlines—Miami Lighthouse expands its facility! What you haven’t read is that OHL Arellano Construction is providing pro bono general contracting services so that blind teenagers can transition successfully from high school to higher education or mainstream employment. Elected officials, community leaders, media and other supporters of Miami Lighthouse attended the groundbreaking ceremony for our Sash A. Spencer Educational Empowerment Center, a new fourth floor wing for blind youth, on July 15th at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 601 SW 8th Avenue, Miami.

“During 2012 Miami Lighthouse served 9,350 clients, an increase of 27 percent over 2008 and a five-fold increase since 2006, the year before the Florida Heiken Children’s Vision Program became part of Miami Lighthouse, growing from 1,700 clients to 9,350. With our new fourth floor, Miami Lighthouse will have the capacity to serve this growing number of people affected by vision loss,” said CEO Virginia Jacko.

This project represents a partnership between Miami Lighthouse and OHL Arellano Construction which also provided pro bono general contracting services for our third floor expansion in 2006-2007. “OHL Arellano Construction has a long history of supporting nonprofits in our community, and this project is representative of our commitment to Miami-Dade-County,” said Agustin Arellano, Jr., Vice President, Finance/CFO, OHL Arellano Construction.

We express our appreciation to contributors who made matching gifts to the Sash A. Spencer Educational Empowerment Center which made this expansion possible. The initial matching gift was provided by the William H. and Leonora K. Hegamyer Family Foundation, Inc. Other contributors to the match were The Reverend Marta Weeks, Jan and Dan Lewis, Penny and Roe Stamps, Jacquelyn Hegamyer Hinckley and Katharine Hegamyer, Miami Lighthouse Ruby Jubilarians and others.

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