



Thanks to our generous Give Miami Day donors

You, our wonderful donors who support the Miami Lighthouse mission, help us transform the lives of more than 16,000 blind babies, school-aged children, adults and seniors that participate in our programs each year. We are delighted to tell everyone that Miami Lighthouse ranked number six among the hundreds of non-profits that participated in this year's Give Miami Day with over 160 contributions totaling \$148,701; a percentage of this total will be matched by the Miami Foundation.

A special thanks to the Miami Marlins and Walgreens on Give Miami Day. The Miami Marlins Ayudan Team "Excellence" volunteered with our Heiken Children's Vision Program optometrists at Citrus Grove Middle School conducting 442 vision screenings and 99 dilated eye exams. Seventy low-income Citrus Grove Middle School students received a pair of prescription glasses.

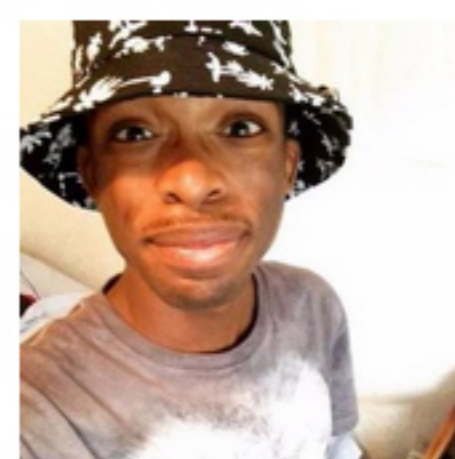


Miami Marlins Ayudan Team "Excellence" outside Major League Baseball and Miami Marlins branded Heiken mobile unit at Citrus Grove Middle School.

After volunteering at Citrus Grove Middle School, the Marlins Ayudan team visited local area Walgreens and raised money for our Heiken program. The money raised will enable students to improve academically and have a better quality of life with their new prescription glasses. Citrus Grove Middle School recently moved from a "D" school to a "B" school on the state report card.

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In memory of Rashard Pierce



Miami Lighthouse staff and students were saddened to learn that one of our own visually impaired students, 24-year-old Rashard Pierce, was deliberately pushed directly into the path of an oncoming car by an unidentified individual. Rashard was on his way home from his job at Goodwill and did not survive. His death is being treated as a homicide by the North Miami Police. Our condolences go to his mother and close friend, Myesha Lyles, also a Miami Lighthouse student.

In This Issue

[Thanks to our generous Give Miami Day donors](#)

[Miami-Dade County School Board Member Mari Tere Rojas Honors CEO and President Virginia Jacko](#)

[McDonald's welcomes blind teenagers](#)

[Nova Southeastern University's College of Business & Entrepreneurship visits Miami Lighthouse](#)

Miami-Dade County School Board Member Mari Tere Rojas Honors President and CEO Virginia Jacko



Vice President for External Relations Cameron Sisser and CEO Virginia Jacko, School Board Member Mari Tere Rojas and Miami Lighthouse Board Director Dr. Stephen Morris.

Heiken Children's Vision Program, and with Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

On November 15th the Miami-Dade County School Board presented a proclamation to Ms. Jacko which highlighted one of her greatest accomplishments as CEO of Miami Lighthouse, the Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™. The Learning Center, in collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools and the Early Learning Coalition, offers a first-of-its kind inclusion Pre-K program for three- and four-year-old children (50% visually impaired and 50% typically developing sighted children).

In attendance was Miami Lighthouse Board Director Dr. Stephen Morris who has a long tradition of collaboration with Miami Lighthouse's subsidiary, the Florida

McDonald's welcomes blind teenagers



Pre-Employment Transition Services Program students Adriel and Jean with McDonald's store owners/operators Milly and Jose Montes.

Despite being blind or visually impaired, 20 of our Pre-Employment Transition Services Program teens, age 14-22, recently enjoyed a "hands on, back of the house" tour of a McDonald's restaurant kitchen thanks to the Montes Family, owners of the McDonald's located just a few blocks from Miami Lighthouse.

The students got to assemble and eat their favorite McDonald's meal and learn the process of food preparation through touch and interaction. The experience reinforced Miami Lighthouse's motto that "it's possible to see without sight."

Nova Southeastern University Huizenga College of Business faculty visit Miami Lighthouse



Professor Julie Jacko, Dean Preston Jones, CEO Virginia Jacko and Professor Daniel Dawes.

Professor Julie Jacko, Dean Preston Jones, and Professor Daniel Dawes from the Nova Southeastern University Huizenga College of Business toured Miami Lighthouse for the Blind's facility on November 28th. They explored our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ and visited with visually impaired pre-kindergartners learning alongside their sighted peers. The NOVA team also learned about Miami Lighthouse's Job Readiness Program which prepares the blind and visually impaired for competitive mainstream employment.

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