



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Issue 73
July 2020

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Summer programs for children and young adults underway

Our mission this summer is to provide every blind and visually impaired child the ability to lead confident and independent lives. This Independence Day we are celebrating that our Miami Lighthouse Summer Camp Programs, partially supported by the Division of Blind Services and The Children's Trust, commenced on campus on June 15th to over 100 campers. For the protection of our campers and staff, we have implemented a stringent code of health and safety practices to guard against the Coronavirus contagion as featured on [CBS-4 Miami Proud](#).



CBS 4 Miami Proud segment titled, "Miami Lighthouse For Blind Summer Program Teaches, Tackles Social Distancing Guidelines"

Our [STAR summer camp](#), a fun seven week early intervention program for children with visual impairments ages 1-4 and for those in Kindergarten through the 5th grade, is being offered through a hybrid model of onsite or remote learning. Onsite summer camp activities include water days, arts and crafts, musical performances and dance parties, and an education STEM Bus that visits weekly and offers interactive science activities. Both programs are designed to support literacy, physical fitness, orientation and mobility, and social skills.



STAR Summer Campers exploring and learning art, science, reading in fun interactive ways

Whether blind or sighted, guitar is for everyone! Our inclusive [Better Chance Music Program summer camp](#) for both sighted and blind teenagers is a unique program that works to develop careers in performance, song writing and sound engineering. Due to Covid-19, instead of field trips, the music summer camp is having onsite "field trips" in which musicians from around the world will deliver professional master classes to our students using communication technology.



Music Program Summer Camp students practice social distancing while learning how to play musical instruments

For young adults our [Pre-Employment Transition Program summer camp](#) focuses on skills for teens to enter the work force or post-secondary education. The summer camp activities include special guest speaker sessions, adaptive sports, work experience, home and personal management, orientation and mobility, social skills and community integration.



Transition Program Summer Camp students work on social skills and teamwork while staying active playing volleyball

Graduation caravan honors Miami Lighthouse kindergartners

Graduation, even at the kindergarten level, is too important to be ignored. On Wednesday, June 3rd, a brightly decorated caravan of cars made stops at the homes of several of our young graduates from the Miami Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™. The parade took the place of a traditional graduation ceremony and still complied with social distancing regulations.



Graduation caravan

As the caravan reached each destination, the student honoree, who will enter first grade at our Learning Center in the fall, received a celebratory graduation box containing a yearbook and portfolio, as well as posters and balloons. Help "[Light the Way](#)" today, for a brighter tomorrow by making a donation to support our Miami Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ expansion.



Confirming Your Website is Accessible

Is your website ADA compliant and accessible?

An organization's website is the face it shows to the world - the front door of all the companies and not-for-profits with online presence. And yet, the way your website is constructed may be preventing some of your customers or constituents from getting through the door.

This month, Miami Lighthouse gave kudos to the grocery store industry in the wake of the pandemic for having accessible websites. Not only were our groceries available to us despite social isolation, the checkout personnel were our "front line" heroes. Click this story featured in the [ProgressiveGrocer.com](#).

Miami Lighthouse can help you make your website ADA compliant and accessible. Request your free consultation today! Contact Cameron Sisser at <mailto:csisser@miamilighthouse.org> or 786-362-7515.

In the News:

[CBS Miami, June 25, 2020 - "Miami Proud: Miami Lighthouse For Blind Summer Program Teaches, Tackles Social Distancing Guidelines"](#)

[Miami Herald, June 24, 2020 - "Miami Lighthouse Owes Helen Keller"](#)

[Progressive Grocer, June 17, 2020 - "Publix Scores High for Online Accessibility"](#)

[Read more!](#)

Contributed by Joan Spector

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