



## MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE ANNOUNCES OPENING OF CAMPUS WITH SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS, BEGINNING JUNE 15

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind will open its on campus summer programs for children and teenagers, beginning on June 15, and has adopted a stringent code of health and safety practices and standards to protect its students from the Coronavirus contagion. Returning programs will include a fun seven week early intervention program for children with visual impairments ages 1-4 designed to support literacy, physical fitness, and social skills and a school aged camp for children with visual impairments and their siblings in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Miami Lighthouse's inclusive Better Chance Music Program for both sighted and blind teenagers will develop their careers in performance, song writing and sound engineering. The Pre-Employment Transition program summer camp for young adults, ages 14-22, will focus on skills for teens to enter the work force or post-secondary education and teaches students home and personal management, assistive technology, job readiness, orientation and mobility, social skills, and community integration.

"We have a responsibility this summer to be sure that our young students retain all that they have learned during distance learning at home by immersing them in engaging, fun activities that expand their experiences and knowledge," said Miami Lighthouse President and CEO Virginia Jacko. "Now that parents are returning to work,

we need to be certain that our blind and visually impaired children and teenagers have a place to go that is safe and productive.”

Miami Lighthouse’s enhanced health and safety procedures address strict practices for employees and program participants, including temperature screenings, personal protection equipment, maximum office and classroom capacities, food preparation requirements and enhanced cleaning schedules. All of these procedures are being enforced to meet or exceed guidelines required by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Miami-Dade Public School System.

All of Miami Lighthouse’s campus-based programs for babies, children, teenagers, adults and seniors were suspended on March 16 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Teachers and instructors have maintained constant contact with their program participants through distance learning classes, online activities and exercise programs, and personalized telehealth conversations.

For more information about Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and its summer camp programs, contact Cameron Sisser at [csisser@miamilighthouse.org](mailto:csisser@miamilighthouse.org) or 786-362-7515.