



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Issue 28 July 2016

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SAVE THE DATE!
**85th
Diamond
Anniversary
Celebration**
Saturday,
January 28, 2017
at the Historic
Biltmore Hotel

Exciting news about our new Learning Center for Children!

It's hard to believe, but we're one month away from groundbreaking on our exciting new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™! Our Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™ will house innovative programs for youngsters from birth through age four and will offer pre-kindergarten classes for blind and visually impaired three and four year olds.

The groundbreaking ceremony will be held in collaboration with Munilla Construction Management and Wolfberg Alvarez & Partners.



Rendering of Miami Lighthouse including the Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™

Miami Lions Continue Their Tradition as Founders

We are incredibly grateful to the Lions Club of Miami for continuing the tradition started in the early 1930s when they purchased Miami Lighthouse's first building -- a bungalow -- which housed Miami Lighthouse on this very site. Members of the Lions Club of Miami presented Miami Lighthouse President and CEO Virginia Jacko with a donation check towards the Center of Excellence Campaign to create our new facility: the Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™.



Left to Right: Lion Henry Castro, Lion Alan Campbell, Lion Harry Magee, Miami Lighthouse President & CEO Lion Virginia Jacko, Lion Greg Werra, Miami Lighthouse Chief Program Officer Carol Brady-Simmons, and Lion Hector Ferrer

Miami Marlins Host "Touch Tour"

Our Transition students were in for quite the treat this month! Having experienced a "touch tour" at Marlins Stadium and having spent time with Marlins catcher J.T. Realmuto in the dugout before our hometeam took on the Atlanta Braves, the students had a fantastic time! Thank you to the Miami Marlins Foundation for partnering on such a wonderful and memorable experience!



Our Transitions students with Miami Marlins Catcher J.T. Realmuto

For the fantastic coverage on WSVN-TV Channel 7 News, [click here](#).

FAASB Holds Annual Meeting at Miami Lighthouse

The Florida Association for Agencies Serving the Blind (FAASB) convened their quarterly meeting at the Miami Lighthouse on June 7th and 8th. The Association's mission is to serve as a united voice and be the organizational support empowering private agencies serving Floridians with visual problems.



FAASB members with Miami Lighthouse President & CEO Virginia Jacko and Miami Lighthouse Chief Program Officer Carol Brady-Simmons

President & CEO Virginia Jacko, with Guiding Eyes dog Eva, gave attendees a tour of the Miami Lighthouse facility and described the innovative new services that will be provided young children with the arrival of our new Lighthouse Learning Center for Children™.

Meet Our Vision Solutions Center Team

John Garcia, our Vision Solutions Center Manager, is a Licensed Dispensing Optician. On a daily basis, he presides over Miami Lighthouse's ultra-busy, on-site operation, so the arrival of Juan Carlos Artaza Roca as his full-time Assistant Manager has been warmly welcomed.

A graduate of Regis University in Denver, Colorado, with a degree in Economics and Finance, Juan Carlos, describes his role at the Vision Center as "trying to help fit products to the individual needs of our clients."



Left to Right: Juan Carlos Artaza Roca and John Garcia

He is particularly excited about the potential for the new product ZoomMax. "It enlarges far better than older products, has a bigger screen and provides more contrast options," says Juan Carlos. "Our clients are finding it very helpful."

Our Vision Solutions Center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. To make an appointment with our consulting low vision optometrist for a low vision functional exam, call 786-362-7489.

Contributed by Joan Spector

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