

A photograph of a person from the waist down, wearing light-colored trousers and white sneakers, walking on a city street. They are holding a white cane with a red tip. The background shows a blurred city street with other pedestrians and buildings.

# **Boundless Hope**

# **Maximum Independence**



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
OF BROWARD

**ANNUAL IMPACT STATEMENT 2019**

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT/CEO AND BOARD PRESIDENT

Our commitment at the Lighthouse of Broward is to offer support to those who are blind or visually impaired so they may live their lives to the fullest – and this past year was no exception. We are thrilled to watch our clients regain hope and discover maximum independence.

Maximum independence, different for each individual, starts with enhancing confidence. People who are confident are more likely to grow and step out of their comfort zone – this is what we continually see here at Lighthouse of Broward. Individuals with no sight or low vision gain confidence by learning techniques and using technology to help them thrive in spite of their vision issues. And the more they learn, the more their confidence grows and fully blooms into hope – hope for today and hope for a successful, productive future.

This is what we do here at Lighthouse of Broward. We change lives by offering tools for maximum independence, which spurs limitless hope.

We're very proud to have touched the lives of more than 2,400 individuals spanning all ages, from babies to the elderly this past year. We look forward to future growth in programs, facilities and, most of all, in number of clients served. Our hope is to empower every one of our blind or visually impaired neighbors so they may flourish on all levels.

We invite you to stand with us as we offer maximum independence and boundless hope.

Sincerely,



**ELLYN DROTZER, MSW, LCSW**  
**PRESIDENT & CEO**



**AARON SEE**  
**BOARD PRESIDENT**



**ELLYN DROTZER, MSW, LCSW**  
**PRESIDENT & CEO**



**AARON SEE**  
**BOARD PRESIDENT**

**"The Lighthouse shows me I can go forward.  
I don't have to be afraid.**

**– RENÉ, LIGHTHOUSE CLIENT**





**The Lighthouse  
of Broward**  
enables the blind and  
visually impaired of all  
ages to find maximum  
independence and  
boundless hope.



## PROGRAM SERVICES

# The Lighthouse of Broward served a total of 642 NEW clients in 2019, unduplicated.

### Vital Living

serves blind and visually impaired seniors, who participate in group and individual rehabilitation training, enabling them to maximize their independence, well-being, and health. Vital Living helps seniors to age in place and learn skills empowering them to remain safe and live independently.

#### CLIENTS SERVED

**274**

#### IMPACT

**97%** of clients are living in homes, group homes or assisted living.

**0%** moved due to issues with vision loss.

### David & Jean Colker KIDS Program

is a year-round program that provides a summer camp, weekend activities each month, and school holidays during the school year for 6 to 13-year-olds who are blind and visually impaired.

#### CLIENTS SERVED

**57**

#### IMPACT

Launched STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) initiative for year-round learning. Early learning and continuous learning programs in STEAM areas prepares children for success in school and future careers.

### Working Solutions

provides blind and visually impaired working-age adults with skills training, job preparation, placement services, and ways to overcome barriers to gain employment and reduce the effects of vision loss on job performance.

#### CLIENTS SERVED

**180**

#### IMPACT

**90%** of clients improved daily living skills, safe travel/mobility skills and communication skills including use of adaptive technology.

### Family Support Group and VISIT

The Family Support Group and Visually Impaired Seniors using Technology (VISIT) programs offer additional support to clients and their families.

#### COMBINED CLIENTS SERVED

**54**

#### IMPACT

Offers a safe setting for clients to gain support, share feelings, and obtain information regarding their family member's vision loss.

## Teen LIFE

is a year-round program for teens and young adults ages 14 to 21. It focuses on career exploration, job readiness, work experience, daily living skills and college preparation.

### CLIENTS SERVED

43

### IMPACT

100% of students met their performance goals in Life skills and ECC skills, which include daily living skills for home, school and social outings.

## Bright Beginnings

is a year-round developmental and support program for parents and children ages birth through five years old.

### CLIENTS SERVED

34

### IMPACT

100% of the parents were engaged in the instructional process and could continue with the child's learning

## Workforce Solutions

was recently launched to create opportunities for adults who are blind and visually impaired to become wage earners and taxpayers, reducing their reliance on government support and increasing engagement with the community. Because this is a new program, client data will be included in next year's Impact Report.

### IMPACT

Light manufacturing warehouse – assembly, kitting, packaging and distribution of products – is open and operational.

## A Vision of Health

A Vision of Health program offers 20 adults aged 18-64 who are visually impaired and living with diabetes a combination of diabetes management, cooking classes, wellness education, and adapted exercise classes to improve their overall health and quality of life. Because this is a new program, client data will be included in next year's Impact Report.

### IMPACT

90% of participants have increased their number of steps per day, and 80% have decreased their A1C levels. A high A1C level increases the chance of becoming diabetic.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

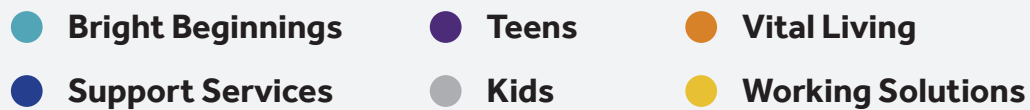
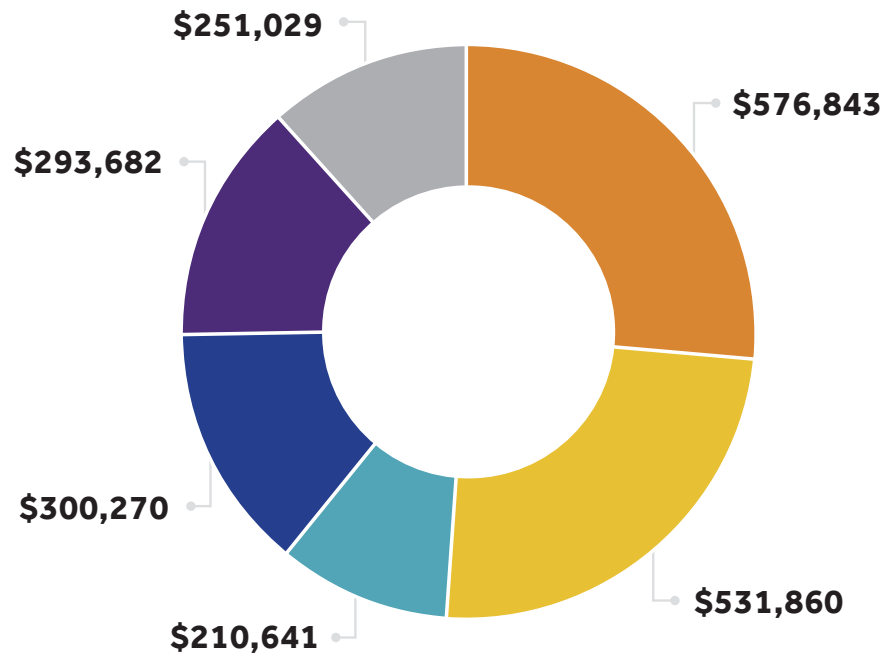
Low Vision Clinic assists low-vision clients and the general public in partnership with Nova Southeastern School of Optometry onsite. In-home follow up includes teaching best use of remaining vision with adaptive low vision devices. Insurance may be billed.

Lifetime Learners are graduates of the Lighthouse Vital Living program.



## 2019 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### Expenses

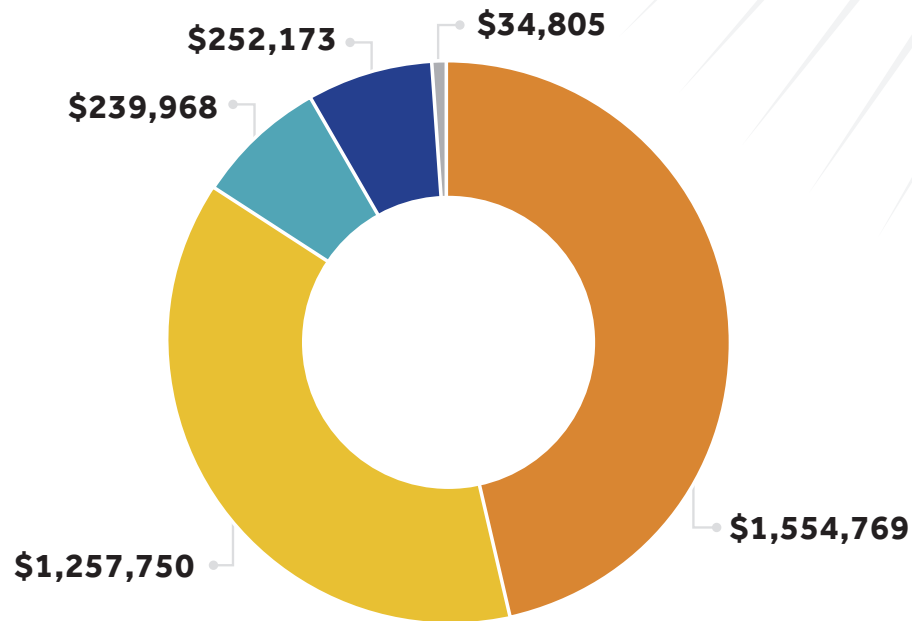


Total Expenses 2019: **\$2,164,325\***

Before coming to the Lighthouse, I didn't have any idea how to use the computer and now I'm using assisted technologies.

– VELMA, LIGHTHOUSE CLIENT

# Support and Revenue



- Contract Revenue
- Grants and Contributions
- Fundraising Events
- Program Income
- Other Income

Total Support and Revenue: **\$3,339,465\***

The Lighthouse of Broward is graciously supported by



\*\*\$598,251 of Grants and contributions are program restricted.

**The mission of Lighthouse of Broward is  
to provide specialized rehabilitation,  
life skills training, and employment  
opportunities that enhance the  
independence, productivity, and  
dignity of children and adults who are  
blind or visually impaired.**

LEARN MORE AT  
**WWW.LHOB.ORG**

RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE BY



**LIGHTHOUSE**  

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**O F B R O W A R D**  

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