



Strong. Resilient. Determined.



LIGHTHOUSE
OF BROWARD

IMPACT STATEMENT 2020

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT/CEO AND BOARD PRESIDENT

The challenges of this past year have pushed all of us more than we could've imagined, but I'm so very proud to say that the Lighthouse team remained strong, resilient and determined. I am truly humbled by their efforts in support of our clients who are blind or visually impaired.

Immediately when the pandemic hit, our staff jumped into action. They re-imagined our programs, seamlessly shifting them from an in-person setting to a digital platform. And as a result, we've relentlessly continued to pursue our vision of helping the blind and visually impaired enjoy maximum independence and a high quality of life through the transformative work of the Lighthouse of Broward.

Like our staff, our clients also have continued to remain strong, resilient and determined, despite challenges that were considerably more acute compared to sighted individuals.

Even in the best of situations, blind people experience isolation as they interact in a sighted world. Without the benefit of touch in this new, social-distanced world – combined with this past year's universal fear of sickness and economic instability – our blind neighbors have faced frustration and depression. We responded by offering additional mental health services to help them navigate these rough times.

I applaud our staff and clients for their strength and perseverance. And I thank every donor, sponsor, contributor, funder and friend who recognize the value of the services we offer. I also continue to be so grateful for the leadership of our board, who have steadily and effectively helped us manage during these times.

We have so much gratitude as we see the light at the end of the COVID tunnel. We're excited to move into our new normal as we serve our blind and visually impaired neighbors.

Sincerely,

Ellyn Drotzer

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

Aaron See

**AARON SEE
BOARD PRESIDENT**



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



**AARON SEE
BOARD PRESIDENT**

LIGHTHOUSE OF BROWARD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Vice Chair & Chair, Facilities Task Force

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Chair, Programs Committee

Colonel Robert 'Stu' Stewart
Chair, Workforce Committee

Charles L. Verner

General James Monroe

Maria Pierson

▼ Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Lighthouse Board of Directors met virtually for most of 2020.



SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT



◀ **Hidden Hero.** Samantha Kelly, Vice President of Programs, received a Hidden Hero Award from the Community Foundation of Broward for successfully and seamlessly guiding the Lighthouse team in transforming programs into a virtual environment.

Samantha Kelly celebrates with President & CEO Ellyn Drotzer.



Daniel Novielli, VP of Workforce Enterprises, with Alexia Serrano, receiving a \$500 Emergency Fund check.

▲ **COVID Help.** Lighthouse of Broward launched the COVID-19 Emergency Fund to provide emergency assistance to clients served by the organization. Approximately \$114K was raised to help clients cover essentials, to continue to offer services and to maintain Lighthouse operations.

▼ **Giving Tuesday.** Giving Tuesday 2020 was a huge success thanks to an effective social media and email campaign. More than \$12,000 was raised to provide tools for distance learning to blind and visually impaired children and adults.



Lighthouse client Alexiana Lopez with her mom Jessenia.

▲ **Fun for Kids.** Lighthouse offered a social-distanced, drive-through back-to-school event for Lighthouse children, including a pickup of free school supplies and craft activity boxes, plus a spooktacular Fall Festival celebration.



SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT



◀ **Eyes on the Future.** This super-fun virtual fundraiser presented by the Josephine S. Leiser Foundation brought in more than \$77,000 in support of Lighthouse of Broward.

At the Eyes on the Future live broadcast were volunteer Colonel Robert “Stu” Stewart, Event Co-Chair Marianne Finizio, Lighthouse VP Jose Lopez Masso, Lighthouse President & CEO Ellyn Drotzer and Local10 Anchor Calvin Hughes, who served as emcee.



Jose Lopez Masso, Lighthouse VP of Strategic Initiatives and Development, receives his COVID vaccine.

▲ **COVID Vaccine.** The Lighthouse of Broward partnered with the Broward County Health Department to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to 50 individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

◀ **In the News.** CEO Ellyn Drotzer spoke out for the blind and visually impaired as they faced significantly more hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her opinion was featured in the Sun Sentinel and shed light on the additional challenges faced by Lighthouse clients.

PROGRAM SERVICES

The Lighthouse of Broward served 2,552 blind or visually impaired individuals in 2020, including 644 NEW clients, 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: 251

Impact: 100% of clients are living independently in their homes and have learned vital new skills to maintain their independence

Program graduates: Vital Living graduates, called Lifetime Learners, totaled 1,741 last year.



Ready to Work 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: 176

Impact: 100% of clients updated their resume and improved interview skills.

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: 55

Impact: 100% of students demonstrated an increase in independence in daily living skills.





Visually Impaired Seniors using Technology (VISIT) and Family Support Group

offer additional support to clients and their families.

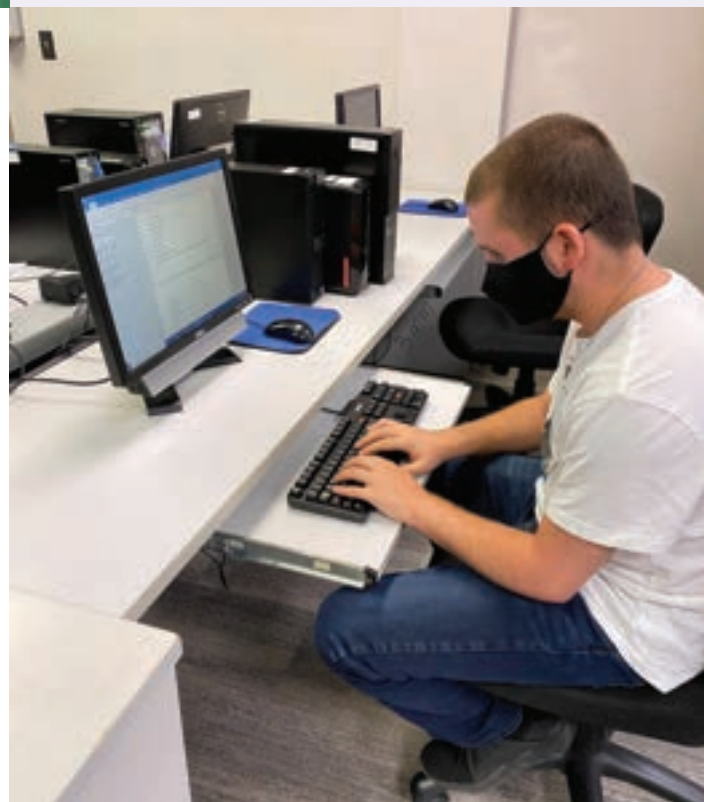
Combined clients served: 74

Impact: VISIT provide technology access and training to help clients become more independent, and the Family Support Group provided a safe space for clients to share feelings and obtain information regarding their family members' vision loss.

Teen LIFE (Learning Independence From Experience) 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: 46

Impact: 100% of TeenLife parents reported that LHOB services were provided at a pace that met their child and their family's needs.



Workforce Enterprises creates 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.

Impact: Employs three direct labor personnel, one supervisor and a vice president, all of whom are blind, plus one sighted supervisor.

Achievement: Secured a contract to provide computer mice to all federal government agencies.

PROGRAM SERVICES

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

Clients served: 42

Impact: 100% of the children demonstrate pro-social skills in one-on-one and group interactions and activities with peers and adults.



A Vision of Health 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.

Clients served: 25

Impact: 100% of participants report they have gained knowledge of how to access fresh and nutritional foods and how to prepare healthy meals.

A Low Vision Clinic

at the Lighthouse assists low-vision clients and the general public in partnership with Nova Southeastern School of Optometry. In-home follow up includes teaching best use of remaining vision with adaptive low vision devices.

Clients served: 167 clients

Impact: 100% of clients have access to low-vision eye care.



THANK YOU!*

Albert E. and Birdie W. Einstein Fund, Inc.
Blanche S. Buck Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Charles and Joan Hermanowski
Family Foundation Inc.
Citrix
Community Foundation of Broward:
Jonathan Dominquez Fund,
Allan Wolopwitz Fund,
Gary J. Scotto Fund, and Jan Moran
Unrestricted Fund
First Horizon Foundation
Florida Agencies Serving the Blind (FASB)
Florida Division of Blind Services (DBS)
Gore Family Memorial Foundation Trust
Gunther Motor Company
Henry L. & Kathryn Mills Charitable Foundation
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The Allergan Foundation
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The David Kimmel Foundation
The Deaver Phoenix Foundation
The Jim Moran Foundation
The Salah Foundation
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United Way of Broward
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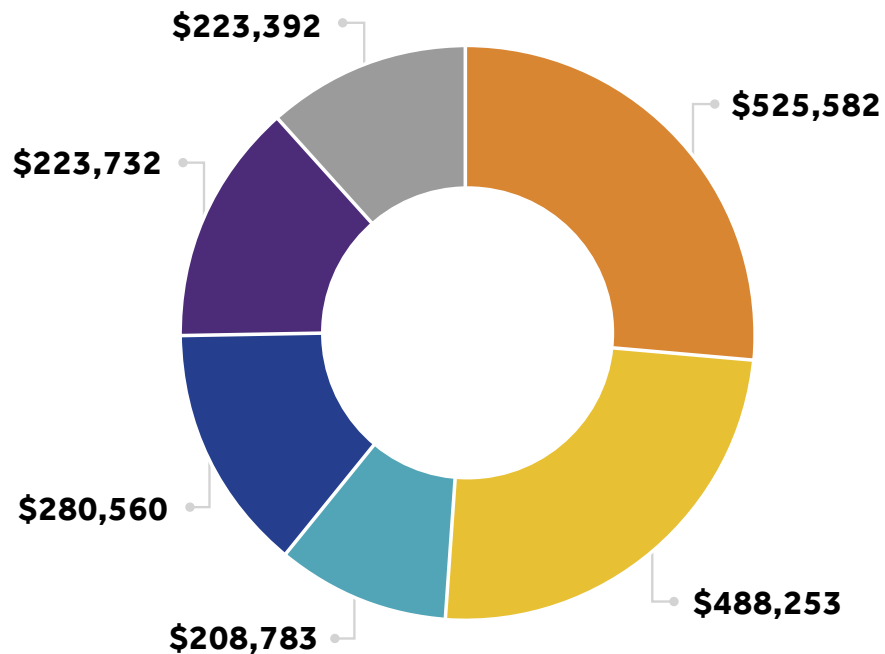
**List includes funders at \$5,000 or more during fiscal year 2019-2020*

VOLUNTEER THANK YOU

We offer our heartfelt thanks to our 24 regular volunteers who put in 922 hours valued at more than \$23,000 to help our blind or visually impaired clients.



Expenses



- Bright Beginnings
- Teens
- Vital Living
- Support Services
- Kids
- Ready to Work

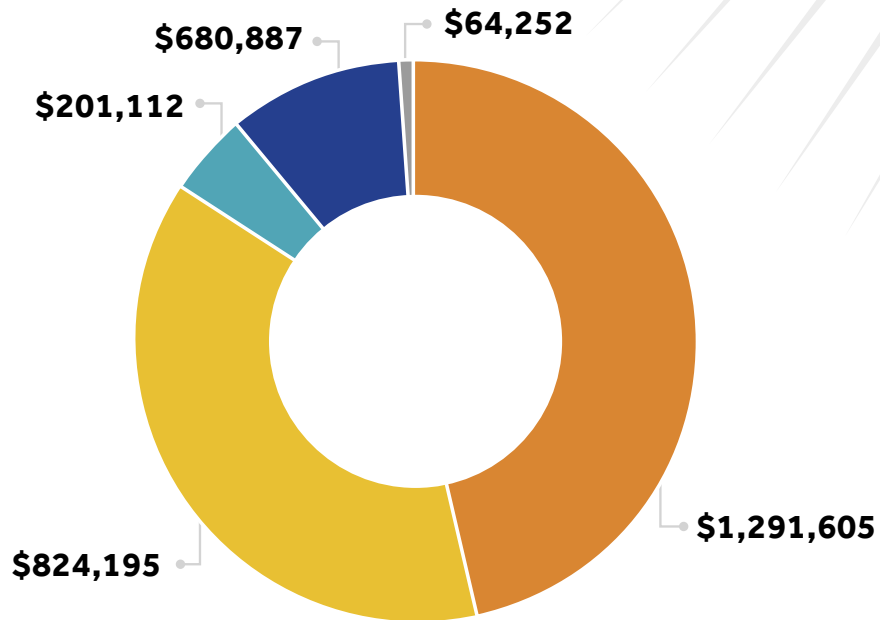
Total Expenses 2019: \$2,362,290*

“The Lighthouse was so helpful to me and it was truly an amazing experience with a wonderful staff.”

- LARRY, A CLIENT FOR 3 YEARS

*Please visit www.LHOB.org/donate for full FY 2019-2020 independent audit report.

Support and Revenue



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

Total Support and Revenue: **\$3,062,051***

The Lighthouse of Broward is graciously supported by



*\$67,804 of grants and contributions are program restricted.

The mission of the Lighthouse of Broward is to provide the leadership, services, advocacy, and resources necessary to enhance the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired in Broward County and empower them to live independent, healthy, employed, and fulfilling lives. Its vision is for all Broward residents who are blind or visually impaired enjoy independence and a high quality of life through the transformative work of the Lighthouse of Broward.

LEARN MORE AT
WWW.LHOB.ORG

RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE BY



LIGHTHOUSE

O F B R O W A R D

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