



Persistent Optimism



LIGHTHOUSE
OF BROWARD

ANNUAL IMPACT STATEMENT 2021

Above: Four Lighthouse of Broward clients with smiles on their faces.

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT/CEO AND BOARD PRESIDENT

We closed out 2021 with gratitude for the generosity of our donors, support of our board leadership, and consistent, hard work of our Lighthouse of Broward team.

Together, we have continued to move the Lighthouse to new heights with an attitude of persistence and optimism despite the ever-changing environment of COVID-19. The fluid atmosphere of this past year has required us to pivot at a moment's notice, constantly testing our patience and resolve. But we have overcome by remaining optimistic, as we look ahead to a future when this pandemic will end or become more manageable.

In the meantime, we remain resilient, updating and fine tuning our programming and staffing to meet and overcome challenges so we may continue to consistently serve individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

These folks need us – always – regardless of the situation. And we are committed to serving them no matter what. We are resolved to do so with a persistent, hopeful spirit, knowing that our work makes an important, life-changing difference in their lives.

This is our mission here at the Lighthouse of Broward. We are so proud to provide resources to help those who are blind and visually impaired thrive



ELLYN DROTZER, MSW, LCSW
PRESIDENT & CEO



AARON SEE
BOARD CHAIR

Ellyn Drotzer

ELLYN DROTZER, MSW, LCSW
PRESIDENT & CEO

Aaron See

AARON SEE
BOARD CHAIR

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SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT



▲ WHITE CANE AWARENESS DAY

The Lyons Club of Dania Beach graciously hosted blind and visually impaired clients and staff to celebrate White Cane Awareness Day with a full barbecue lunch, games and raffle prizes. A big thanks to The Lyons Club!

Above: Lyons Club volunteers Alan Plaoli, D. Joe Payne and Louie Mariano.



Left: Happy Lighthouse child Emilio poses with a huge inflatable clown.

HOCKEY FOR OUR KIDS ►

The Florida Panthers hosted a specialized hockey clinic – shooting balls equipped with bells – for approximately 20 Lighthouse of Broward youth. The kids loved it!

Right: Saurym Quezada assists client Alexiana Lopez with her hockey stick.



◀ BACK TO SCHOOL

More than 85 blind and visually impaired youth participated in the Lighthouse's Back-to-School event. Kids received a full backpack including Braille reading materials and enjoyed hands-on STEM activities, Build Your Own Bear, snow cone treats, and more.

Left: Lighthouse client Lucas builds his bear.



◀ FALL FESTIVAL

Eighty children who are blind and visually impaired and their families had a great time at the Lighthouse Annual Fall Festival, interacting with animals in the petting zoo, navigating an inflatable bounce house, riding ponies, scaling a rock climbing wall, and more.

SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT

IN THE NEWS ►

The Sun Sentinel published a compelling piece by Jose Lopez Masso, VP of Strategic Initiatives and Development at the Lighthouse, on how to interact with blind people. Read the full article here: <http://www.lhob.org/node/80>.

Right: Sun Sentinel news article by Jose Lopez Masso.

ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

How we see the blind

White Cane Awareness Day, on Oct. 18, spotlights the challenges of those who are blind and visually impaired, which are many — from making sure clothing matches to crossing the street safely. One challenge not often addressed is how sighted people interact with blind individuals, like me.

Sighted people who have little or no contact with the blind often are uncomfortable interacting with them. They worry about saying or doing something wrong, and unfortunately,

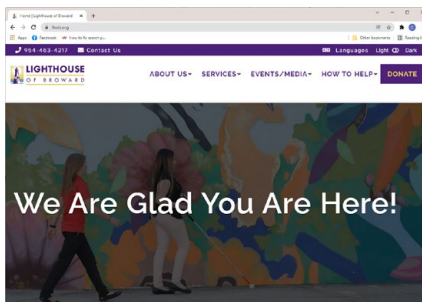


By Jose Lopez Masso

this is by no means the norm.

■ We can't identify you by your voice. Not necessarily. If a blind individual knows you, he or she likely can identify your voice. But if he or she has only met you a couple times, probably not. The best option? Introduce yourself before starting to speak.

■ We can't work. Not so. Many blind people do work and want to work. The 70% unemployment rate of blind and visually impaired persons many times is a result of an employer's unwillingness to give blind candidates a



▲ FABULOUS NEW WEBSITE

The Lighthouse of Broward launched a new, updated website this past year, creating a site that's more visually appealing to sighted individuals while being more functional and accessible for those who are blind and visually impaired. Check it out at www.LHOB.org!

Above: Lighthouse of Broward home page.



▲ LEADERSHIP BROWARD

Jose Lopez Masso, VP of Strategic Initiatives and Development at the Lighthouse, was accepted into Leadership Broward's Class XL, the first blind person ever to become a member of Leadership Broward.

Above: Jose Lopez Masso at the Leadership Broward retreat with Matt Korshoff, Jamie Wasserman and Jeff Fauer.

HOLIDAY FUN! ►

Our blind and visually impaired youth played on a snow "mountain" at the Lighthouse Holiday Party presented by Publix Supermarkets Charities in celebration of the holiday season.

Right: Lighthouse client Cora is all smiles at the Holiday Party.



PROGRAM SERVICES

The Lighthouse of Broward served 2,521 blind or visually impaired individuals in 2021, including 627 NEW clients, unduplicated.



Bright Beginnings

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

CLIENTS SERVED

40

Above: A baby in the Bright Beginnings program.

IMPACT

100% of children maintained interest and attention in activities designed to stimulate visual auditory and tactile senses.

David & Jean Colker KIDS Program

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.

IMPACT

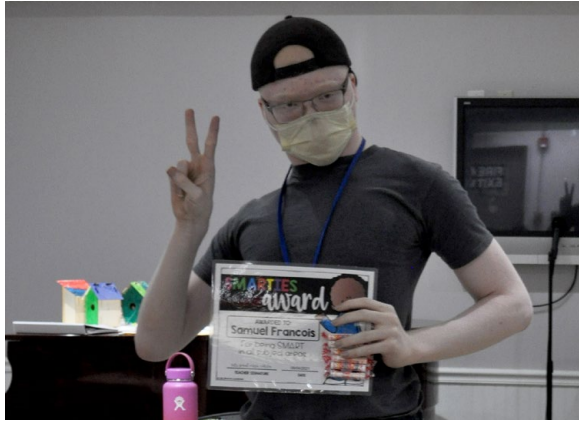
95% of students improved functional life skills (communication, reading comprehension, writing, safe travel, personal care, cooking, etc.).

CLIENTS SERVED

57

Below: Teens take a swim during Summer Camp.





Above: Teenage client Samuel Francois wins an award.

Teen LIFE

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.

IMPACT

100% of Teen LIFE parents reported that services provided addressed the areas most needed.

CLIENTS SERVED

52

Ready to Work

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.

IMPACT

100% of clients who completed job readiness completed or updated their resume and improved their interview skills.

CLIENTS SERVED

183



Above: A Lighthouse client receives Ready to Work advice.



Above: Velma, a Workforce Enterprises employee, packages a computer mouse.

Workforce Enterprises

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 four direct labor personnel and one supervisor, all of whom are blind, plus two sighted supervisors.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Increased output to 4,500 computer mice for federal contract; landed new contract assembling kits for mechanical locking mechanisms; and added one additional staff person.



Above: A client works on her cell phone.

Family Support Group and VISIT

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

IMPACT

Provided smart phone technology training to 50 seniors.

COMBINED CLIENTS SERVED

54

Vital Living

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.

IMPACT

97% of clients increased their daily living and/or communication skills.

PROGRAM GRADUATES

Vital Living graduates, called Lifetime Learners, totaled 1,774 last year.

CLIENTS SERVED

231



Above: Vital Living client pours water into a cup.



Above: The Lighthouse Low Vision Clinic.

Low Vision Clinic

The 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.

IMPACT

Provided 120 visually impaired children and adults free or reduced cost low vision exams.

CLIENTS SERVED

120

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:
 William A. Krueger Charitable Fund
 Robert E. Dooley Unrestricted Fund
 for Broward
 Dorothy Osterhoudt Unrestricted Fund
 for Broward
 Kresge Unrestricted Fund
Eye Physicians of Florida LLP
Florida Agencies Serving the Blind (FASB)
Florida Division of Blind Services (DBS)
Gore Family Memorial Foundation Trust

Henry L. & Kathryn Mills Charitable Foundation
HTG
J. Milton & Nellie E. Hoffa Memorial Foundation
Josephine S. Leiser Foundation
Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation
Kegel Family Foundation
The Colin Brown Foundation of the Ayco Charitable Foundation
The David Kimmel Foundation
The Frederick F. DeLuca Foundation
The Jim Moran Foundation
The William and Helen Thomas Charitable Trust
The William R. Watts Foundation, Inc.
United Way of Broward County, Inc.

**List includes funders at \$5,000 or more during fiscal year 2020-2021*

2021 BY THE NUMBERS

\$94,369

AMOUNT RAISED FOR
GIVING TUESDAY

\$6,213

VALUE OF DONOR HOURS

218

VOLUNTEER HOURS

121

NUMBER OF STAKEHOLDER
MEETINGS, GATHERINGS AND
OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

115

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS
FOR GIVING TUESDAY

10

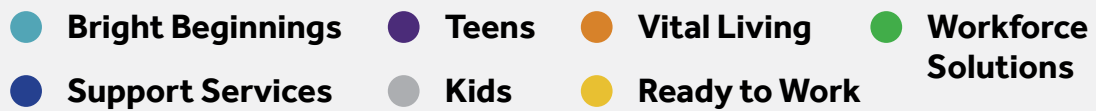
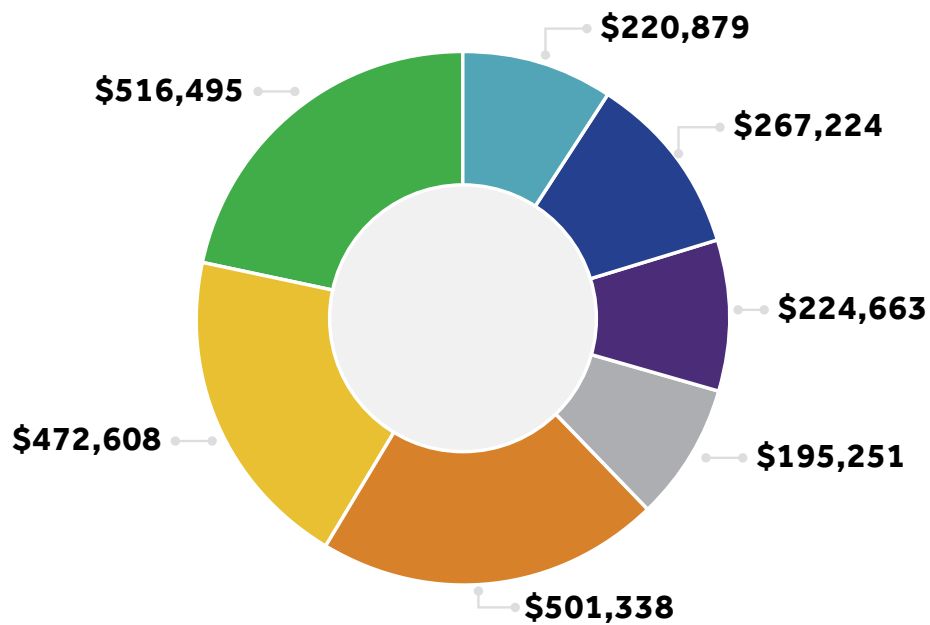
NUMBER OF CLIENT
PROGRAM EVENTS,
INCLUDING ADULTS AND
CHILDREN

43

NUMBER OF REGULAR
VOLUNTEERS

2021 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Expenses

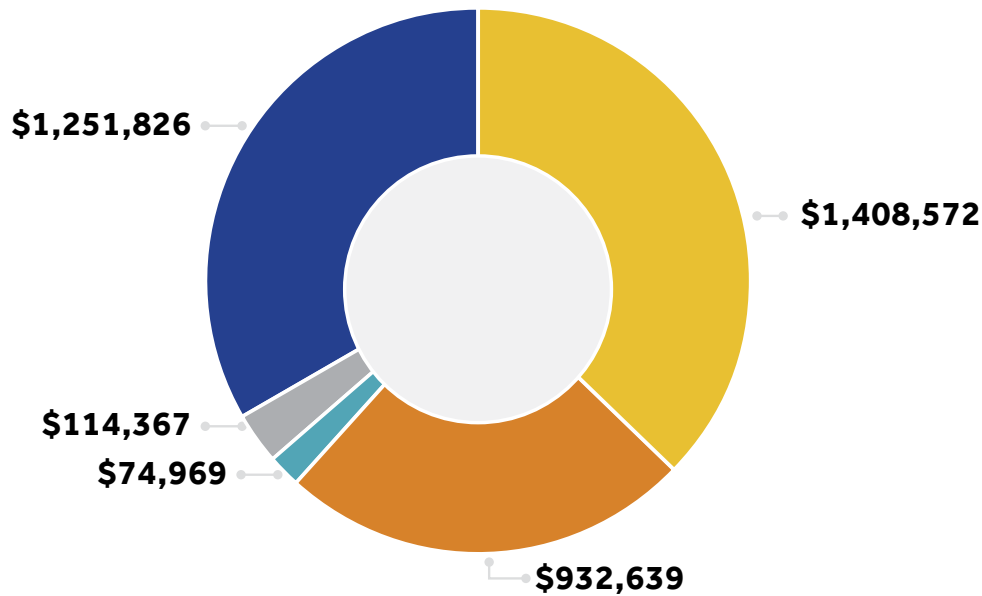


Total Expenses 2021: \$2,398,458*

Below: Client walking in front of Lighthouse of Broward mural.



Support and Revenue



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

Total Support and Revenue: **\$3,782,373***

The Lighthouse of Broward is graciously supported by



*Please visit www.LHOB.org/donate for full FY 2021-2022 independent audit report.

OUR MISSION

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.

OUR VISION

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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