**Dear Lighthouse Family,**

**I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! It’s hard to believe we are already nearing the end of the year — time truly flies, especially when we work as hard and as passionately as we do here at the Lighthouse of Broward.**

**Today, I want to share just one example of how rewarding and impactful our work has been this year:**

**Vital Living Program – Fiscal Year 2024–2025**

* **338 seniors ages 55+ served — up from 303 last year (an 11.6% increase).**
* **9,143+ hours of hands-on training delivered in daily living skills, safe mobility, and technology.**
* **96% of participants improved their daily living and/or communication skills.**
* **91% reported greater confidence in making life decisions.**
* **100% are living independently or in supportive environments, maintaining dignity and autonomy.**

**VISIT Initiative (Visually Impaired Seniors Using Technology):**

* **Expanded to include off-site weekly sessions at the Sunrise Senior Center (2-hour classes in 6-week cycles for 5–7 seniors).**

**None of this would be possible without the professionalism, compassion, and dedication of our extraordinary staff. And to continue growing and strengthening our impact, we are thrilled to welcome these talented new team members:**

* **Erica Simmons, Chief Financial Officer**
* **Karen Mitchell, Community Affairs Associate**
* **Jeannette Masso, Donor Stewardship Associate**
* **Melanie Malone, Part-Time Babies Instructor**

**Each of them brings an impressive background and a passion for our mission, and we are confident they will help make the Lighthouse even better and stronger.**

**On another exciting note, we are incredibly proud to share that our very own Jose Lopez-Masso has been selected by the Association of Fundraising Professionals — Broward Chapter as the 2025**

**Outstanding Fundraising Executive! He will be recognized at the annual National Philanthropy Day celebration on November 13.**

**As we celebrate Jose’s achievement, let us also celebrate the work we are privileged to do together every day. Every program we run, every life we touch, and every door we open to independence is a reflection of our shared commitment — between the Lighthouse and each of you.**

**Thank you for being an essential part of this mission. Together, we are truly changing lives.**

**With gratitude,**

**Ellyn Drotzer, MSW, LCSW**

**President and CEO**

**Important Notice: Facility Renovations in the Coming Months**

**Our facility will be undergoing renovations in the coming months. To stay informed about any temporary changes to service locations, social activities, and potential building closures, please contact us directly or visit our website for real-time updates.**

**Call the front desk at 954-463-4217 (Dial 0) or visit**[**www.lhob.org**](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.lhob.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Ctcordova%40lhob.org%7Cc094e8ddfea0454edcfc08dd6257dfc8%7Ca5eccae0abd941b58c97527f7515711b%7C0%7C0%7C638774851891875030%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=P6idxqbMJl1N98Nsqvy6sMY37n%2BYxGA7kHDsAWkisGQ%3D&reserved=0)**for the latest information.**

**Thank you for your understanding and support!**

**Important Building Closure Dates & Updates**

* **LHOB Closed for Veteran’s Day, Tuesday, November 11th, 2025.**
* **LHOB Closed for Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27th, 2025.**
* **LHOB Closed for Day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 28th, 2025.**
* **LHOB Closed for Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th, 2025.**
* **LHOB Winter Closure: Monday, December 22nd through Friday, December 26th, 2025.**
* **LHOB New Year Closure: Thursday, January 1st, 2026.**

**LHOB Social Groups and Activities: For all events you must RSVP in advance as space is limited.**

**Zumba Class: Every Friday from 12:30p.m. – 1:30p.m. except for October 17th and November 7th. Join us for a fun and energetic Zumba class that combines dance and fitness! This class features high-energy music and dynamic dance moves that provide an excellent cardio workout while improving coordination and rhythm. While most of the movements can be adapted for a seated position, there will also be some standing routines to elevate your heart rate and boost your mood. Whether you’re a seasoned dancer or a beginner, this class is designed for everyone to enjoy! Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**Arts & Crafts: Every Thursday from 1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m except December 11th. Join us for adapted arts and crafts projects including painting with tactile lines, clay work, sewing, and floral arrangements. Activities vary each week. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**Immersive Art Class: Join us for a special art class led by artist Jorge Morales. Every Wednesday, October 1st until November 12th (excluding November 5th) from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Each activity will vary. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110, as space is limited.**

**Book Club will meet on the last Friday of every month from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the front desk at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited, you must RSVP.**

**October 31st – The Happiest Man on Earth, by Eddie Jaku, Autobiography, DB 103720**

**November 21st – A Maiden’s Grave by Jeffery Deaver, Thriller Fiction, DB 49072**

**December 19th – Magic Hour by Kristin Hannah, Fiction, DB 63255**

**Trivia Group: October 3rd, November 14th, and December 5th from 10:00am-12:00pm. When raucous laughter is heard in the halls of the Lighthouse, you can be sure it’s coming from the trivia group. Questions on a variety of subjects are read by a volunteer, and anyone who thinks they have the answer is free to call it out. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**BINGO: October 10th, October 24th, and December 12th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Join us for Bingo with Brailed cards and large print cards. There are prizes for the winners. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**In-Person Problem Solvers Support Group for past clients with Dr. Alan Katell: Thursday October 9th, November 13th, and December 18th from 11:00am – 12:00pm. This support group offers a space for past clients to connect with others who have similar experiences. Instructors lead discussions on relevant topics and challenges that members with visual impairments may be encountering. This group provides an opportunity for individuals to share their experiences, insights, and strategies, fostering a supportive environment where members can exchange ideas, offer mutual encouragement, and work together to find effective solutions. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**Descriptive movies: Join us on select Thursdays for a movie, popcorn, and treats. The movies will be shown in Classroom Two from 10:00am – 12:00pm. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**October 2nd – Grown Ups (English) - After their high school basketball coach passes away, five good friends and former teammates reunite for a Fourth of July holiday weekend.**

**October 16th – Happy Gilmore 2 (Spanish) - Revisit Happy Gilmore's golf career after his win in the Tour Championship.**

**November 6th – Instant Family (English) - When Pete (Mark Wahlberg) and Ellie (Rose Byrne) decide to start a family, they stumble into the world of foster care adoption.**

**November 20th – My Oxford Year (Spanish) - When Anna, an ambitious young American woman, sets out for Oxford University to fulfill a childhood dream, she has her life completely on track until she meets a charming and clever local who profoundly alters both of their lives.**

**December 4th – Last Christmas (English) - Kate is a young woman subscribed to bad decisions. Working as an elf in a year-round Christmas store is not good for the wannabe singer.**

**English Conversation Club: Meets the First Tuesday of the month – October 27th, November 4th, December 2nd from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Please join Dee Nelson for English Conservation Club where participants will make new friends and gain hands on speaking experience with practical, real-world topics. This social group is for clients past and current who want to improve their English Communication Skills. Please RSVP at 954-463-4217 ext. 110. Space is limited.**

**\*Dates, time, and location of social activities are subject to change please visit our website at** [**www.lhob.org/publications**](http://www.lhob.org/publications) **or call our activities line at 954-463-4217 ext. 8 for Up-To-Date information on social activities and meetings. \***

**Support for Past and Present LHOB Clients:**  
**Last Wednesday of the month – October 29th, November 26th, December 17th from 1:00-2:00. This support group is to help participants who want to connect with other individuals who are visually impaired. Instructors will discuss strategies for**

**dealing with stress and anxiety. Members of this group can connect; share their experiences, coping strategies, and their strength and hope.   
Join the call: https://www.uberconference.com/room/lhobsupport   
Optional dial-in number: 954-451-0380   
No PIN needed.   
International Access Numbers:  
https://www.uberconference.com/international**

**Special Events for Past and Current LHOB Clients:**

**October 17th – White Cane Day Celebration from 11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. @ Dania Beach Lions Club   
(501 SW. 4th Ave Dania Beach FL 33004)**

**November 7th – Family Support Day from 9:00 A.M – 2:00 P.M. @ Flamingo Hall (12855 NW 8th St, Sunrise, FL 33323). Adult family members (spouses, parents, adult children, caregivers) are invited to learn more about vision loss and supporting their loved one. Space is limited and Lunch is provided. All**

**participants must sign up with the front desk by calling 954-463-4207. Up to two adults can attend with each client.  
  
December 11th - Adult Client Holiday Party @ Galuppi’s from 11:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. (1103 N Federal Hwy, Pompano Beach, FL 33062)    
  
We are thrilled to invite you to our annual Client Holiday Party! Join us for an afternoon filled with festive cheer, delightful cuisine, and great company.**

**Each guest is served with a served duet plated lunch, Grilled Salmon with Beurre Blanc Sauce and Chicken Piccata along with a side of Loaded Mashed Potatoes, Wild Vegetable Medley, Garden Salad, and fresh rolls & butter, along with Cheesecake Parfaits for dessert. Secondary option: Vegetarian Plate. Cost is $25.00 per person. Registration forms can be mailed or emailed (by request) or found at the front desk.**

**Please RSVP and provide payment (cash, check, or credit card (with small fee)) by December 1st to ensure we have everything prepared for your enjoyment.**