



2025

Annual REPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM the President & Board Chair

As we reflect on the past year, we are inspired by the incredible progress The Lighthouse of Houston has made in advancing our mission to enable and empower people who are blind or low vision to realize their full potential. Our commitment to empowering individuals and fostering inclusive communities remains unwavering.

This year, we witnessed remarkable growth in the strength and reach of our partnerships, which have played a vital role in expanding our programs and resources. Collaborations with community organizations, local businesses, and advocacy groups have enabled us to better serve those who are blind or have low vision and their families, ensuring accessible opportunities for personal growth.

Volunteerism continued to be a cornerstone of our success, with participation reaching new heights. Over the past year, more than 500 dedicated volunteers joined our cause, bringing energy, compassion, and expertise to our programs and events. Their support has not only increased the impact of our outreach but has also helped to educate and engage the broader public about vision loss and inclusivity.

Together, with the ongoing generosity of our donors, the commitment of our team members, and the leadership of our board, we are making significant strides toward our vision to create a life without limits. Thank you for standing with us as we continue this important journey.



Jenna Dhayer,
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenna Dhayer'.

Kim Colburn,
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'KC'.

Our Vision

A life without limits for people who are blind or low vision.

Our Mission

To enable and empower people who are blind or low vision to realize their full potential.



Our

Leadership



Jenna Dhayer
President



Shelly Zander
Vice President
Programs
& Health Services



Terry Vaughn
Vice President
Operations & Sales



Denise Garcia
CPA | CFO

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Kim Colburn, Chair
Jeffrey Smith, Chair-Elect, Secretary
Vivecca Hartman, Finance Chair, Treasurer
Cope Bailey, Board Development Chair
Cody Biller, Member-At-Large
Christine Stevenson, Member-At-Large
Omer Malik, Member-At-Large
David Donat, Ex-Officio, Past Immediate Chair
Jenna Dhayer, President
Shelly Zander, VP Programs/Services
Terry Vaughn, VP Operations/Sales

Members

Caitlin Bakhtiary
Doug Yeager
Erin Applegate
Lonnie Knowles
Mazher Poonawala
Michael McCulloch
Swati Modi, OD
Stephen Duffy
Micheal Twa, OD, PhD



Programs & Services

Client Impact

LOW VISION CLINIC	500
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	739
GROUP SUPPORT	982
ORIENTATION & MOBILITY/ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING	367
ADULT DAY PROGRAM	6,480
ADULT ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	722
YOUTH CAMP	175
YOUTH ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	855
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION & TRAINING	411
INFORMATION & REFERRAL	10,773
COMMUNITY EVENTS	253
RESIDENTIAL & ASSISTED LIVING	1,081
VOLUNTEERS	805

Total Impact 24,084

In 2024, we had 77 employees, 58% were blind or low vision.



Low Vision Clinic

Our specialized Low Vision Clinic provides comprehensive, individualized support for individuals of all stages of vision loss. We deliver low vision exams, personalized care and therapy, one-on-one assistance with vision rehabilitation exercises and adaptive aids, and the latest in adaptive technology.



When we see patients, we ask them their goals. We really try to be specific about what it is they want to do; do they love reading, do they like watching TV, do they want to go back to driving, is walking around unsafe for them? So, we actually specifically look at what tasks they want to do.

Dr. Kia B. Eldred McGee, OD, FAAO

Health Services

The Lighthouse of Houston's health services include a Low Vision Clinic, Activities of Daily Living (ADL), Orientation and Mobility (O&M), and Behavioral Health. Licensed staff provide personalized one-on-one counseling, complimentary support groups, and expert low vision care led by three highly qualified optometrists. Our O&M and ADL programs empower individuals who are blind or low vision to navigate their environment and perform daily tasks independently using cane skills, protective techniques, and assistive technology.



Orientation and Mobility (O&M) helps me to be safe and more independent on the road. Before the training, I could not navigate uneven surfaces well and would frequently fall.

Vivian Cheung, Lighthouse of Houston Client

Support That Connects

We offer complimentary social support groups that provides safe, supportive spaces for connection and shared learning. Our Behavioral Health Support Group serves individuals who are blind or low vision, along with their families and caregivers, addressing mental health topics related to vision loss while reducing isolation and fostering peer support. Our Diabetes Education Support Group focuses on health education, resources, and emotional support for those managing diabetes. Two additional social support groups meet monthly, further strengthening community and connection.



Technology & Education Training

Empowerment through technology and skills training is an important aspect of our mission. Our comprehensive programs evaluate and matches individuals with assistive technology devices, software, and programs tailored to their unique needs and objectives.

We offer employment training and classes designed to prepare individuals for the workforce and strengthen job skills. Whether starting out or building on existing experience, our programs provide the tools needed to reach your employment goals.



Milestone:

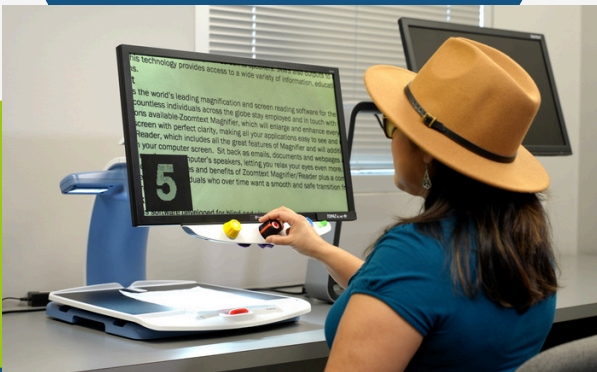
Launch of the Customer Service Certification Program

The Lighthouse of Houston has established a comprehensive Customer Service Certification Program. This specialized training equips blind and low-vision individuals with essential skills for service-oriented careers. Participants gain hands-on experience in conflict resolution, communication, and industry-standard CRM software, ensuring they are prepared for the modern workforce.



"This certification program is more than just professional training; it is a gateway to independence and economic empowerment for the community we serve. By bridging the gap between talent and opportunity, we are ensuring that vision loss is never a barrier to a rewarding career in the modern workforce."

Victoria Hillard, Manager of Education & Training, The Lighthouse of Houston

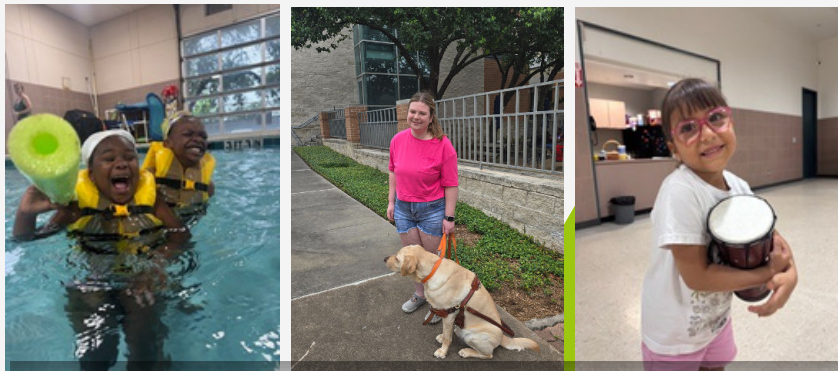


Youth & Adult Programs



Our youth and adult programs, activities and events are designed to enable and empower individuals who are blind or low vision to realize their full potential by enhancing social skills, self-esteem, confidence, independence, personal and family well-being.

We provide programmatic, social and recreational activities and spaces to belong and connect, such as our Adult Day Program, Youth Specialty Camps, Family Events, Singo Bingo, Choir, Art Classes, Wine Tastings, and so much more. Sighted family members, friends and caregivers are encouraged to participate in activities and events.



Life is going to tell you that it's over — but I'm proof that it's not. You have organizations in your community like The Lighthouse of Houston. When people ask me, 'Why do you go to The Lighthouse?' I tell them, 'Because The Lighthouse didn't just save my life — they helped restore it.'



Maurice "Mo" Frank, Client, The Lighthouse of Houston

Residential

Lighthouse Living Centers 1 and 2 are located in Southwest Houston and offer independent living for low income, disabled individuals. Multi-Family housing HUD 202, Section 8 subsidized rent is determined by the individual or family's income level including allowable expenses. Each center offers one and two-bedroom units. We have 108 residents living in 79 units.



Partnerships & Volunteerism

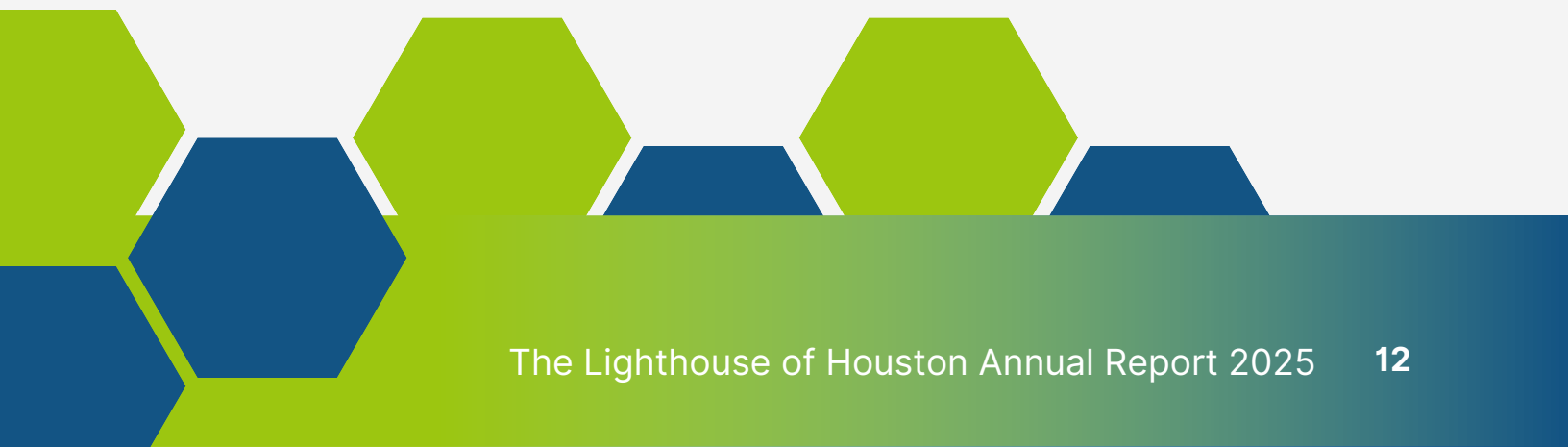


The Lighthouse of Houston prides itself in building connections with our partners and volunteers. These connections allow us to expand our reach, enhance services, and create a community of support and friendship that changes lives.

Cross-Community: Partnership with another nonprofit agency that is mutually beneficial with mission alignment. The nonprofit may provide or assist in the delivery of a program or service that benefits our clients and community. Program delivery may or may not take place onsite at LOH. Collaboratively work together and share resources to achieve common goals, while advancing the mission. This partnership would require mutual confidence, understanding, and cooperation to greatly impact those we serve.

Government: Partner with Government agencies, local, state and federally that may provide funding, referral sources, educational resources, and or access to communities and facilities. In addition, agencies interested in advancing employment and increasing access that is accessible and equitable within their facilities and or online.

Business-Corporate: Businesses or corporations interested in offering/leveraging direct labor resources, educational/expertise, financial or volunteer support. Business or corporations interested in buying Premium Business Services and or working with LOH to fill positions within their company with people who are blind/low vision. LOH to work with companies interested in increasing their accessibility.



Thank You to our Amazing Partners!

BUSINESS/CORPORATE

Constellation
Kelsey-Seybold
Berkley Eye Center
BP
Bayou City Hemp
Aviation Laboratories
Global Filtration
RightHear
Houston Dynamo
Competitive Choice
Denso North America
RJY Group
ODP Business Solutions
Fastener Solutions
Montgomery Printing
Brand IQ
All Play
Unlimited Play
Westco Landscaping
American Business Solutions
Performance Electric
Lange Mechanical
Tropical Products
Vecoplan
Arkus
Toyota Center
Snowman Poker
Lick Ice Cream
NWP
Mann Eye Institute
Christal Vision
Christine Ha

Frost Insurance
Houston Trust Company
Colburn Strategies
Ethoscapes
King of Pops Katy

GOVERNMENT

University of Houston College of Optometry
TWC
Universtiy of Houston
Health & Human Services (HHS)
HISD
Region 4
University of Houston Nursing Program
WorkQuest
Ability One
Lone Star College(Kingwood/San Jacinto
Harris County Precinct 1, 2, 3, 4
City of Houston Mayor's w/People
w/Disabilities Office
Texas Women's University
VAMC Veterans Association Medical Center
Metro
Molina Health Care
Amerigroup/Wellpoint
HHSC Blind Children's Program
Sam Houston State
UHC
Railroad Retirement Board
IRS
VA Long Beach

Thank You to our Amazing Partners!

GOVERNMENT CONT.

Vandenburg Space Force Base
ARNG
NavSup
DHA
Pearl Harbor CNIC
Governors Committee on People with Disabilities
Texas Workforce Solutions
The Woodlands High School
Stephen F. Austin

CROSS-COMMUNITY

Achilles Houston
Creating with Blind Abandon
Cheerful Clown Alley
Paw Therapy
National Industries for the Blind
Source America
HAVIN
American Printing House for the Blind (APH)
Delta Gamma
Houston Council of the Blind
Lion's Clubs
Visually Equality of Life
Communities in Schools
Miller Outdoor Theatre
Megan Collins Foundation
Open Dance Project
TUTS

CROSS-COMMUNITY CONT.

Museum of Natural Science
Museum of Fine Arts
Children's Museum
Good Will Houston
Bayou City Heat
Metro Blaze
Alpha Kappa Alpha
HCIL
Houston Heat Dragonboat
Alphapointe
Goodwill Finger Lakes
NewView Oklahoma
Lions Services
U of H Pops
Special Olympics
VIPSET
Houston Square Council
Three Balloons Entertainment
Houston Hurricanes
Montrose Public Library
TIRR Memorial Hermann
Memorial Hermann
Blind Professionals Network
Cane and Able Fitness - Evan Schwerbrock



FEATURED PARTNERS

RightHear

The Lighthouse of Houston, in partnership with RightHear, has significantly improved accessibility and created more equitable environments here in Houston, and most significantly at **Shell Energy Stadium**, home of the **Houston Dynamo** and **Houston Dash**. We installed 20 beacons and 140 markers that assist individuals in navigating to gates, restrooms, seat sections, and concessions. This marks the first stadium in North America to employ this technology, demonstrating a strong commitment to accessibility.

Additionally, we partnered with Raccoon Media Group to bring RightHear's marker technology to the **Ability Expo in seven major U.S. cities**, including Houston. This collaboration has expanded the reach of our mission and continues to grow as we work together to advance accessibility and inclusion.

The Lighthouse of Houston is not only an authorized representative of RightHear, but it's a preferred installation partner. Utilizing our expertise in accessibility, our ability to write proper audio descriptions, and our diverse group of blind and low vision users, we have helped to ensure the effectiveness of RightHear for use by the individuals we serve.

Learn More Here: <https://youtu.be/WqpmPrF4bgg>



The RightHear app was created to help us be more independent, and it has been a blessing that the stadium was the first to install it here. They truly have a heart for welcoming us into their stadium—to have fun, enjoy ourselves, and use the markers and beacons to feel integrated as part of the stadium family.

Darryl Minor, Client, The Lighthouse of Houston

Milestone
Shell Energy Stadium was the first stadium in North America to install RightHear.

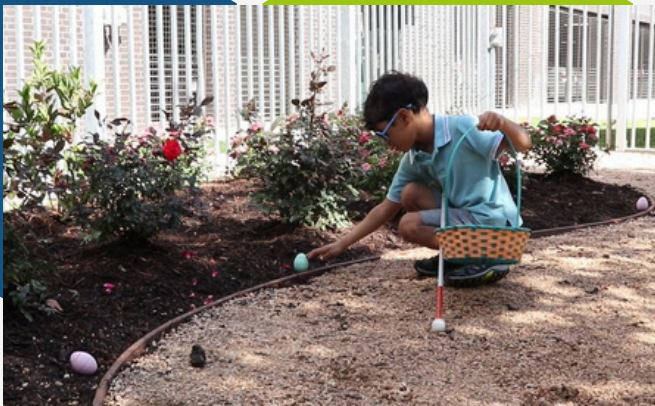


Event Highlights



Over \$225,000 raised at the **6th Annual NWP Golf Tournament** is fueling continued access to essential services for the blind and low vision community at The Lighthouse of Houston.

Our **Lighthouse Choir** took center field at Daikin Park, performing the National Anthem at an **Astros game** and filling the stadium with pride, joy, and possibility.



Our **43rd Annual Beeping Easter Egg Hunt** turned sound into smiles, creating an accessible Easter tradition for children who are blind or have low vision.

Strategic Initiatives

The Board of Directors and Lighthouse Leadership approved a new strategic plan, mission and vision. The plan was developed through collaborative conversations with stakeholders from the community, staff and volunteers.

Community & Empowerment

We will foster communities of belonging with accessible resources that enable personal and family well-being, learning, development and employment.

Technology & Innovation

We will drive full accessibility by embracing technology and innovation.

Partnerships & Philanthropy

We will establish partnerships that expand our reach, resources, and capabilities.

Commitment & People

We will develop a people centered organization that values compassion, empowerment, operational excellence, and people development to create inspired delivery.



New 2026 Initiatives

Texas BVI Fall Field Fest

Following the success of our inaugural Field Fest last November, we're thrilled to bring back the **Texas BVI Fall Field Fest** next fall. This annual gathering is held in partnership with the **Houston Dynamo/Dash** at the Houston Dynamo Practice fields and offers people who are blind or low vision, their families, and community partners a day of fun, connection, and accessible activities designed to engage, inspire, and celebrate the BVI community.

Premium Business Services Expansion: Shredding and Document Management

Our Premium Business Services is expanding to include secure shredding and destruction of paper, physical media, and digital storage devices. Building on over five years of experience managing document services for the Railroad Retirement Board and the Army National Guard, The Lighthouse now offers businesses and government partners end-to-end document management solutions—storage, shredding, and destruction—with clear pricing by the pound (paper) and by cubic foot (other materials). They can also do non-hazardous waste destruction as well.

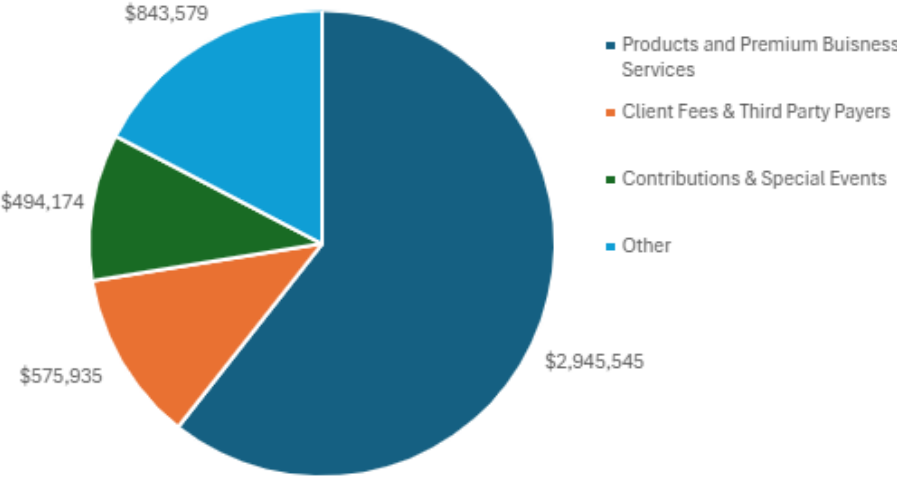


Accessible Park and Playground Development

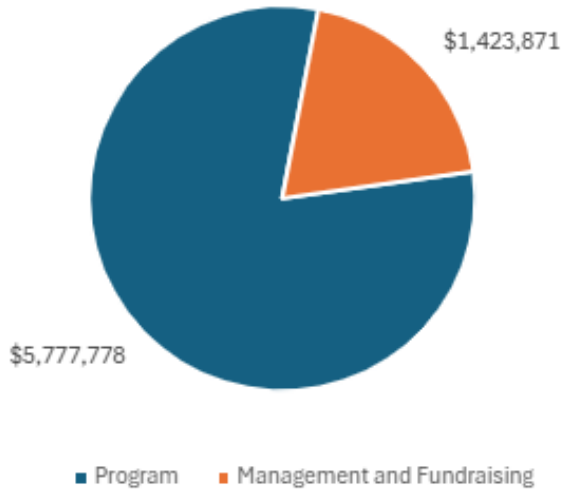
We are excited to announce the early development of the first fully blind and low vision accessible playground, to be built just north of The Lighthouse. This innovative space will include familiar playground features fully designed for accessibility, giving children of all abilities a safe, engaging, and inclusive place to play and explore.

Financials

Revenue
Total = \$4,859,233



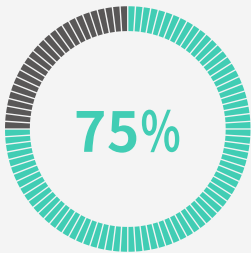
Expenses
Total = \$7,201,649



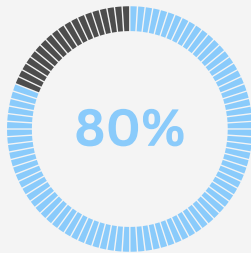
We Are Exceeding The Standard

The industry standard for management and general expenses, as well as fundraising costs compared to direct program costs is 75/25%. We are proud to report that we exceed this standard, with an 80/20% split.

Industry Standard



The Lighthouse of Houston



Premium Business Services

The Lighthouse of Houston's Premium Business Services are designed to make your business more successful and efficient. We provide solutions that matter to businesses that want to reduce their overhead and increase their customer service. We are dedicated to continuing to hire and train the best, most qualified staff team of people who are blind or low vision to provide your company with the highest quality of service.



Kitting and Packaging

Our experienced staff can kit, assemble, fold, and label ongoing, one-time, small or large projects.



Document Management

We help organizations digitally transform by converting paper and stored files into easily accessible digital assets. Our trained professionals also manage onsite mailroom operations, provide digital mailroom solutions, and offer secure shredding.



Call and Contact Centers

Reliable call and contact center services that assist businesses in outsourcing to provide high client and customer satisfaction. Our support can be customized to ensure your needs are met.



Our Premium Business Partners

American Business Solutions
ARNG

Aviation Laboratories

Bayou City Hemp/8th Wonder Brewery

Brand IQ

Denso North America

Fastener Solutions

Global Filtration

IRS

Memorial Hermann

Montgomery Printing

NavSup

ODP Business Solutions

Railroad Retirement Board

TIRR Memorial Hermann


University of Houston

VA Long Beach

Vandenberg Space Force Base

Thank you to our Amazing Donors!

Donors



Abilities Expo
Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
Albert and Margaret Alkek Foundation
All Play Inc.
America Online Giving Foundation
American Solution for Business
Ameri-Shred
Amy Munger Household
Andrea & Chris Dvorachek
Andrea Wirt Household
Andy Mohammed Household
Ann Masterson Household
Arkus and Lighthouse Household
Ashley-Daniels Household
BackSwing Golf Events, Inc.
Bailey Household
Barbara Essex Household
Bayer Household
Benroll
Bhalla Household
Bharti Jasani Household
Blevins Household
Bradford Household
Brittany Moore
BROWN Household
Buell Household
Caitlin Bakhtiary Household
Chanpreet Kang
Charles Nelson Household
Charles Platt
Chauncey Marion Foundation
Chevron
Children's Museum Houston
Christine Stevenson Household
Clark Household
COBAIT
Coca Cola Southwest Beverages
Cody Biller Household
Colin Mayhood
Community Coffee
Constellation
Constellation Brands
Cox Household
Curve Hospitality
D&S Car Wash
Darrel and Elizabeth Mills Charitable Fund
Dave Donat Household
Defense Health Agency (DHA)
Delta Gamma Foundation
Denise Ruwe Household
Denisha Miles Household
Diamonds in the Rough
Dot Inc
Dot Inc.
Dr. Swati Modi Household
Drew Kershen Household
Dustin Wagner Household
Edith & Robert Zinn Foundation
Elevating Horizons LLC
Emily C. Barrett Memorial Fund
Epower LLC
Erin Applegate Household
Erin Connally Household
Estate of Johelen Poindexter*
Estate of Marie Joanne Zoretich
Ethoscapes
Evelyn Mitchell Household

Thank you to our Amazing Donors!

Donors

Excel Tire Gauge
Fidelity Charitable
Fifth Third Bank
Garcia Household
Gary and Angela Kons
General Services Administration
George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
George Tures Household
Gerald Walrath Household
Gladstone Household
Global Partners LLC
Gould Household
Greater Houston Community Foundation
Gregory & Leah Brown Household
Gregory McLaughlin Household
Grocery Supply (GSC) Enterprises, Inc.
Hannah Warren
Hillcrest Foundation
Hilsher Household
Houston Delta Gamma Foundation
Houston Dynamo FC
Houston Trust Company
Inc. Red Bull Distribution Company
Irvin Van Patten Household
J. McCarter
Jackson Household
James and Carolyn Hill Household
James Davis Household
Jeana Hartman Household
Jeff Smith
Jenna Dhayer Household
Jennifer Harris Household
JET WASTE SERVICES
Joan & Troy Household
John Kebodeaux Household
Josephine Todes Household
Judy & Kenneth Nadolny Household
Julie Anderson Household
Karl Marshall Household
Kathleen & Rufus Oliver Household
Keesha Howard
Kenner Harris Charitable Fund
Keurig Dr. Pepper
Kim Colburn Household
Kimmel Household
Kristen Lau Household
Kroger
Kudla Household
Labrada Nutrition
Laurie Maccini
LeBleu Household
Lee Anne Atkinson Household
Lind Schlittenhardt
Linda Haskew Household
Lisa Lloyd Household
Lonnie Knowles Household
Lynco Products
Marion Holbrook Household
Mars Wrigley
Marsha Block Household
Mars-Wrigley
Marti & Billy Rosenberg Household
Martin John Gambling Household
Mary Michel Hinton Household
May Household
McCulloch Household
Meche Household
Melba C. Wynne Foundation



Thank you to our Amazing Donors!

Donors

Melvin Maltz Household
Michael Bilsten Household
Michael Minatrea
Michelle Phi
Miller Household
Millicent Goldschmidt Household
Moers Household
Moore Household
Motiva Enterprises LLC
Museum of Fine Arts Houston
Nasir Khan
National Industries for the Blind (NIB)
Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton
Naval Medical Logistics Command
NAVSUP FLC PEARL HARBOR
Nazeri Household
NIB
Nurczynski Household
Oliver S. Walkup Endowment Fund
Ormond Household
Otto Household
Partners Petroleum
Patricia Davis Household
PayPal Giving Fund
PCARD Sales
Pepsi Corp.
Performance Electric
Performance Food Group Co
Perry Wiggins
Philip Morris International U.S.
PHILLIPS 66
Pierce Household
PlainsCapital Bank
Poerschke Household

Precinct 4
Prosperity Partners LLC
Ramsay Elder Household
Ravindra Senanayake Household
Rebecca Sparlock Household
Reynolds American Inc. (Tobacco)
Ron Kline Household
Russell Diamond Household
Sally Robinson Household
San Miguel Household
Sandler Household
Sanjay Pathak
Satya Inc.
Saunders Foundation
Scot Schroeder Household
Searls Household
Sharney Foundation, Inc.
Shop Co. USA
Shruti Kumar
Sidney Naseralla Household
Silver Eagle Distributors Houston
Stephen Duffy Household
Stone Household
Sugar Land Lions Club
Sunoco
Susan Hershenson Household
Susan Richie Household
Swedish Match North America LLC
Swisher International
SYSCO CENTRAL TEXAS
TE Household
Terri Denny
Texas 2 dance company
Texas North Star Title Co. LLC



Thank you to our Amazing Donors!

Donors

Than-nhi Nguyen Household
The Baldwin Group
The Proctor & Gamble Company
The Rose Family Fund
The Sarofim Foundation
Thelma Spikes Household
Thomas and Rebecca Smith Household
Thomas Helvey Household
Thomas Preuml
TIRR Memorial Herman
Tom Labropulos Household
Tracy Nimmerrichter - Burgess
Household
Trustmark Benefits
TX Baylor St. Luke's Hospital
UK Online Giving Foundation
United Way of Greater Houston
United Way of Metro Dallas
United Way of Midland County
Unknown Donor
Unknown Household
USA Bank
USAF
VA Long Beach Healthcare System
(VALBHS)
Valero
Vanguard Charitable Endowment
Program
Vaughn Household
Versability
Vickey Gandhi Household
Vineet Prasad Household
Vivecca and Chris Hartman Household
Warren Southwest Refrigeration
Webb Household

William & Barbara Noel Household
Woodforest Bank
Woods Household
WorkQuest
Wyatt Williams
Yolanda Rico-Pyron
Zendejas Household





CONTACT US TODAY

We are centrally located near Downtown Houston, have a convenient parking area and are easily accessible by METRO.



LET'S CONNECT

For 85 years, The Lighthouse of Houston has been supporting individuals who are blind or low vision through our health services, assistive technology resources, community and support programs, vocational skills training, and internal employment opportunities. Learn more on our website or follow us on social media for updates.



THE **LIGHTHOUSE**
OF HOUSTON



Phone Number
713-527-9561



Email Address
info@houstonlighthouse.org



Website
www.HoustonLighthouse.org

