



GROWTH | 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Growth is the progression of becoming more complete, of expanding and becoming more relevant. Growth is essential to survival, and it requires adaptability and perseverance. Yet it also requires careful nurturing and mindful guidance.

By all definitions, 2022 was a year of growth for The Chicago Lighthouse. It came in the form of new programs and services, expanded operations, and through mindful care that secured our future and ensured The Lighthouse would thrive for generations to come. As a word, "growth" takes its meaning from the Old English term for "flourish," which is precisely what The Chicago Lighthouse continues to do.



DEAR FRIENDS,

In September 2022, The Chicago Lighthouse held a ribbon cutting for a small learning garden. In partnership with Urban Transformation Network, a small space on our building's southwest side is now a place where students in our school, participants in our Adult Living Skills program and Veteran clients can grow food and flowers and connect with the earth.

Admittedly, the learning garden was not our largest project of the year, but it is emblematic of our year and our theme for our 2022 Annual Report: Growth. Like our learning garden, The Chicago Lighthouse creates opportunities to take small ideas, guide their development and help them flourish.

To us, however, growth does not just mean "getting bigger." It refers to extending our roots by building a 76-unit residential building that will establish The Lighthouse as a haven for people with disabilities, Veterans and those with low incomes. It means extending branches of support to other organizations to meet evolving community needs and providing new, knowledge-based job opportunities for our clients. It includes completing a successful endowment campaign, ensuring we will thrive for generations to come.

Yes, by every measure, 2022 was a year of tremendous growth for The Chicago Lighthouse. We are extremely proud of our accomplishments this year, and we are even more excited about how this year's work will help us continue to grow.

Thank you for your support,

Robert W. Clarke Chair, Board of Directors

President and Chief Executive Officer





GROWTH

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Remembering Richard Forsythe

Rick and Sandy Forsythe have been outstanding benefactors of The Chicago Lighthouse's low vision and assistive technology services. Only months after pledging a transformative gift to continue our work, Rick passed away in December 2022. His legacy will live on as the namesake of The Chicago Lighthouse's Forsythe Pavilion.



The Foglia Residences

Growing Our Roots

The Chicago Lighthouse launched a new era of accessibility last summer when we broke ground on The Foglia Residences, a 76-unit building that will offer safe, affordable and accessible housing to people with disabilities and Veterans.

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Finding Support and Growth as a Family

Elizabeth and Juan Hernandez, both of whom are blind, have found more than a metaphorical home at The Chicago Lighthouse. Employment in our contact centers has enabled them to purchase a place to raise their 12-year-old daughter and put down roots.

Rick Forsythe

A LEGACY THAT WILL LIVE FOREVER



Rick and Sandy Forsythe

RICK AND SANDY HAVE PROBABLY DONE MORE TO ADVANCE THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF LOW VISION THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE PERSON OR FAMILY IN THE COUNTRY.

-JANET SZLYK, Ph.D. | PRESIDENT & CEO

In December 2022, Rick Forsythe—a tireless supporter of low vision research and treatment at The Chicago Lighthouse and for many other organizations around the country—passed away, making all of our lights just a little dimmer.

Rick and his beloved wife Sandy (who is a member of our Board) have been a part of The Lighthouse family for over 20 years. They have supported and nurtured our work, and always encouraged us to do better and do more. Equally important, they also made the financial investments necessary to fulfill our potential and secure our future success. "We will always be forever grateful to them for their tireless support and commitment to making the world better for those with vision impairments," says Lighthouse President and CEO Janet Szlyk, Ph.D.



Lighthouse Board Member Bruce Hague, Rick Forsythe, Board Member Sandy Forsythe, Lighthouse Board Member Caroline Grossinger and Lighthouse President & CEO Janet P. Szlyk, Ph.D., at an April 2022 dinner honoring the Forsythes and their commitment to low-vision causes.



Our main building in Chicago now carries the Forsythe name in recognition of Rick and Sandy's commitment to our work helping people who are blind or visually impaired build independent lives.

Rick was a successful and compassionate businessman and philanthropist, and we are proud to have his name attached to several of our programs, including the Forsythe Center for Comprehensive Vision Care and the Forsythe Entrepreneurial Center in Chicago, as well as the Sandy Forsythe Center for Assistive Technology in our Glenview location.

We are honored to continue Rick Forsythe's legacy through these programs, as well as through our building at 1850 Roosevelt Road, which has been named The Forsythe Pavilion in recognition of his and Sandy's ongoing commitment to our programs and services. Thanks to Rick, the Forsythe name will always serve as a reminder of how we can—and should—push ourselves to do more and do better for everyone in our community. He is forever in our hearts.



FOR "A NEW AREA OF ACCESSIBILITY"



In 1955, The Chicago Lighthouse put down roots in the Illinois Medical District, establishing a permanent location where Chicagoans who are blind or visually impaired receive vision care, employment training, and learn skills that are vital for independent living.

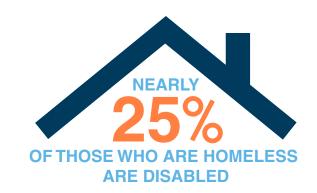
Over the ensuing 38 years, that building has expanded into a 100,000-square-foot space that houses those original programs (including the country's oldest continually operating Low Vision Clinic), as well as our clock factory, twelve social enterprise contact centers and a school.

In the biggest undertaking in our history, The Chicago Lighthouse strengthened its ties to our location, breaking ground on "The Foglia Residences at The Chicago Lighthouse." When it opens in Spring 2024, the building will offer 76 incomequalifying residential units, outfitted with accessible features for people who



TOP: Civic, community and Lighthouse leaders break ground for The Foglia Residences at The Chicago Lighthouse. ABOVE: Eight months into construction, the building starts to take shape.

are blind or visually impaired. Leasing emphasis will be given to people with disabilities and Veterans.



Like so many of The Lighthouse's programs, The Foglia Residences will fill an urgent need in our community. Nearly one-quarter of individuals who experience homelessness are people with disabilities and just over 9% are Veterans.*

The Foglia Residences were developed in partnership with David Brint, a former Lighthouse board member and Founder and Principal at Brinshore Development. For David, the project is personal. His son Alan is blind, making David acutely aware of the need for safe, affordable, accessible housing for the visually impaired population. As with any project representing growth, David hopes The Foglia Residences plant the seeds for similar developments in other areas.



Before starting his own healthcare products company, Vincent Foglia (pictured here with his wife, Patricia) began his career selling medical products in the Illinois Medical District. In remarks at the summer groundbreaking event, Mr. Foglia expressed his pride in helping to bring safe, affordable, accessible housing to the area.

*Source: National Association of County and City Health Officials, 2019



EXPANDING IN THE NORTHERN SUBURBS

In May 2022, The Chicago Lighthouse renamed our north-suburban Glenview location in honor of Board member, business leader and donor David Huber and his wife, Nancy. What was once Chicago Lighthouse North is now "The Chicago Lighthouse Huber Vision Rehabilitation Center."

The Hubers are longtime supporters of The Chicago Lighthouse and our Lighthouse North location. David has been a member of our board since 2008. His business, Huber Financial Advisors, LLC, was the presenting sponsor of our "Lighthouses on the Mag Mile" public art display in 2018.

"David and Nancy's commitment to our organization will help countless individuals in the north and northwest suburbs in need of our low vision expertise," said Lighthouse President and CEO Janet Szlyk, Ph.D., as she unveiled the new name.

Though the name has changed, the services remain. In fact, the site has expanded its programs, including increased comprehensive optometric care, additional psychological counseling availability and increased assistive technology assistance.

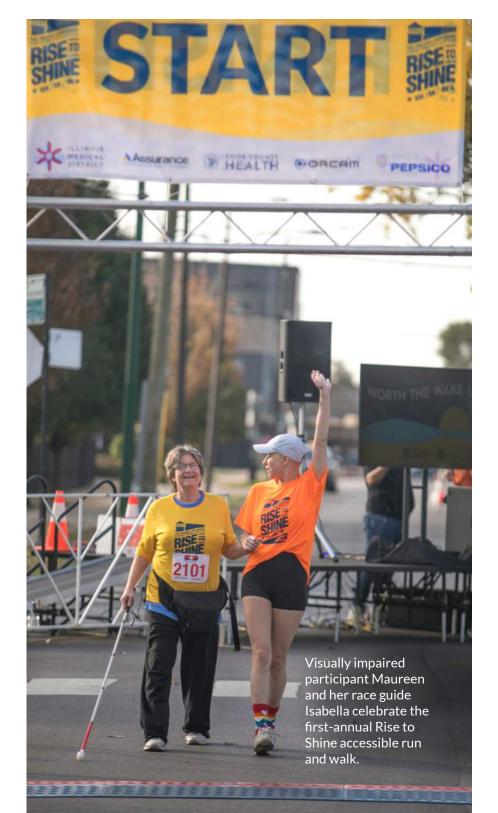


New Branches of Partnership

CELEBRATING INCLUSION

In October 2022, The Chicago Lighthouse, in partnership with **The Chicago Central Lions Club** and **The Illinois Medical District,** kicked off the inaugural "Rise to Shine Run and Walk." The event, which included 10K, 5K and 1-mile course options, celebrated health, wellness and community throughout the Illinois Medical District and was fully accessible for people with all types of disabilities. More than 200 individuals participated in the event, which we hope to turn into an annual happening to showcase the vibrancy of our local community and the power of inclusion.









BRANCHING INTO NEW FIELDS

Shaina, who is visually impaired, was one of the first participants to complete the Certified Medical Administrative Assistant training program, presented in partnership with Moraine Valley Community College. The self-directed program helps people with disabilities prepare for the National Certification Exam to become medical administrative assistants. This program is part of The Lighthouse's committment to developing more knowledge-based job opportunities.

NURTURING INDEPENDENCE

Gardening encourages physical activity, reduces stress, helps develop social and motor skills, and nurtures independence. In September 2022, The Lighthouse, in partnership with **Urban Transformation Network's** Metropolitan Farms, unveiled a new learning garden where students from the Children's Development Center, participants in our Adult Living Skills Program and Veteran clients tend to fresh vegetables and flowers. "I am excited about this partnership and how far we can expand into the future." said Urban Transformation Network CEO Donald Peterson.





WORKING HERE ALSO
HELPED US BUILD OUR
CREDIT, WHICH MEANT WE
COULD STOP PAYING RENT
AND FINALLY BUY A HOME

-JUAN HERNANDEZ

(including a steady paycheck, benefits and social connections). It also offered a preschool where her daughter, Karen (then a 4-year-old) could learn kindergartenreadiness skills. Elizabeth and Karen came to The Lighthouse together, where both found a place to help them flourish.

Meanwhile, Juan was searching for opportunities of his own. College-educated, Juan faced the same barriers to employment that are all too familiar for those who are blind or visually impaired. He might get a

first interview, but he rarely got a second and never got the job. An accomplished musician, Juan took to busking in the streets and subway stations to help his family. The gig had its challenges—his guitar was stolen more than once—but it offered freedom to be an attentive parent for his daughter.

When the COVID-19 outbreak shut down the subways, Juan once again found himself looking for opportunities. With Elizabeth working remotely, Juan saw his chance and began working for The Chicago Lighthouse as a contact center agent.

As a result of the care and guidance they have received from The Lighthouse, the Hernandez family has thrived. Karen is blossoming as a sixth-grader, and the steady support Juan and Elizabeth are getting from their jobs helped them put down permanent roots

They've also grown their family. In 2022, the Hernandez's adopted a poodle named Valentina. Karen is very excited.

Finding Support and Growth as a Family

Just as gardens need nourishment and support to grow strong, The Chicago Lighthouse provides its community with opportunities that will help everyone blossom. For the Hernandez family, Juan and Elizabeth, who are both legally blind, and their daughter Karen, The Lighthouse has been the trellis that has supported their

family's growth and strength.

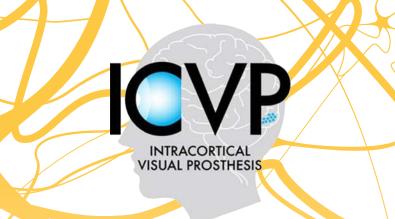
The Hernandez Family has been part of The Lighthouse community since 2014, when Elizabeth began work in our University of Illinois Health System contact center. The job provided Elizabeth an opportunity to reap all the benefits of employment







FACING PAGE: The Hernandez family enjoys a moment in their new home. ABOVE LEFT: Juan Hernandez consults with UI Health Supervisor Kendra White. ABOVE MIDDLE: Karen, back when she was a student in our preschool. ABOVE RIGHT: Elizabeth takes calls at her remote workstation.



From Small Things, Big Things Will Grow

In February 2022, neurosurgeons from Rush University Medical Center implanted the world's first Intracortical Visual Prosthesis (ICVP) into a participant who has been completely blind since 2016. Only 5 millimeters in diameter, these devices—which are placed directly on the visual cortex, bypassing the retina and optic nerve—are almost literally the seeds from which the prospect of artificial vision may grow.



Dr. Patricia Grant

Since April 2022, The Chicago Lighthouse has served as the testing center for the trial of the world's first wireless ICVP, and the results, according to Dr. Patricia Grant,

The Lighthouse's Lauren M. Ross Chair of Low Vision Research and Vice President of Research, are promising. In the following Q&A, Dr. Grant provides an update.

What happened during the surgery last February?

Neurologists from Rush University Medical

Center implanted 25 individual wireless floating microelectrode arrays (WFMAs) directly onto the participant's visual cortex of the brain. Each WFMA is small (about the size of a pencil eraser), and each has 16 tiny independently addressable electrodes that provide stimulation to regions of the visual cortex. That's a total of 400 individual stimulation channels.

What are these implants designed to do?

Electrical stimulation from the electrodes create visual percepts called phosphenes. Our goal is that when the electrodes are stimulated, the phosphenes' appearance and location, reported by the participant, remain consistent.

Is there anything you can say about the preliminary results?

So far, the data we have collected has been invaluable to the clinical trial. The participant has experienced phosphenes that are described as bright or dark dots or rings that are blueish-white, orange, red or iridescent. Using information from the participant, we have been able to create a map of where each phosphene is located. When we connect the ICVP system to a camera-based headset, the participant can identify their finger and hand moving in front of the camera, the location of a person in the test room, objects on a table, and simple geometric shapes. We expect these abilities to improve as we fill in more detail on the phosphene map.

What do these findings mean?

First, these preliminary results have provided important information about the safety of the surgery and the implants. We are also learning which WFMAs provide the most useful information. These findings will guide WFMA placement for future participants. As we enroll more participants in the study, we will continue to gain more knowledge about the potential of the system.



What are the next steps for this clinical trial?

For the current participant, we will continue to focus on spatial mapping to further understand where in the participant's visual space electrodes are producing visual percepts. This information will be useful for future work with the camera. In addition, we are actively recruiting additional participants for the study, so we can attempt to replicate these results.

ICVP Study Group

The Chicago Lighthouse

Janet Szlyk, Ph.D.—*Site Principal Investigator* Patricia Grant, Ph.D.

Meesa Royster

IIT

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Kelsey Stipp

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Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Gislin Dagnelie, Ph.D.

University of Chicago Leo Towle, Ph.D.

University of Texas at Dallas Stuart Cogan, Ph.D.

The Intracortical Visual Prosthesis is a set of wireless electrodes—each about the size of a pencil eraser—placed directly on the brain's visual cortex, bypassing the retina and optic nerve. When the electrodes are stimulated, they create visual percepts called phosphenes. During the clinical trial, a participant without light perception has described the phosphenes as bluish-white, orange, red or iridescent dots or rings.

 2

EXTENDING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS THROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE



Contact Center Manager Rochelle Upshaw and her capable team handle overflow calls for Howard Brown Health.

Founded in 1974, Howard Brown Health is more than a healthcare provider. It is a social service entity that provides clinical health services and works to empower marginalized communities through social programs. The organization serves more than 40,000 individuals every year.

For just over a year, The Chicago Lighthouse has been providing overflow Contact Center Services for Howard Brown Health. According to Jimm E. Cobb, Director of Patient Services, The Lighthouse has proven itself to be an outstanding business and community partner.

Why did you choose The Chicago Lighthouse to handle your business?

The Lighthouse has a roster of great clients: UI Health, Advocate Health Systems and The Illinois Tollway to name a few. They all said great things about their business at The Lighthouse. Plus, you have experience working in the health care sector, which can be complicated and requires certain protocols around privacy. The Lighthouse has those pieces in place, so I knew you could take on the business seamlessly.

What else appealed to you?

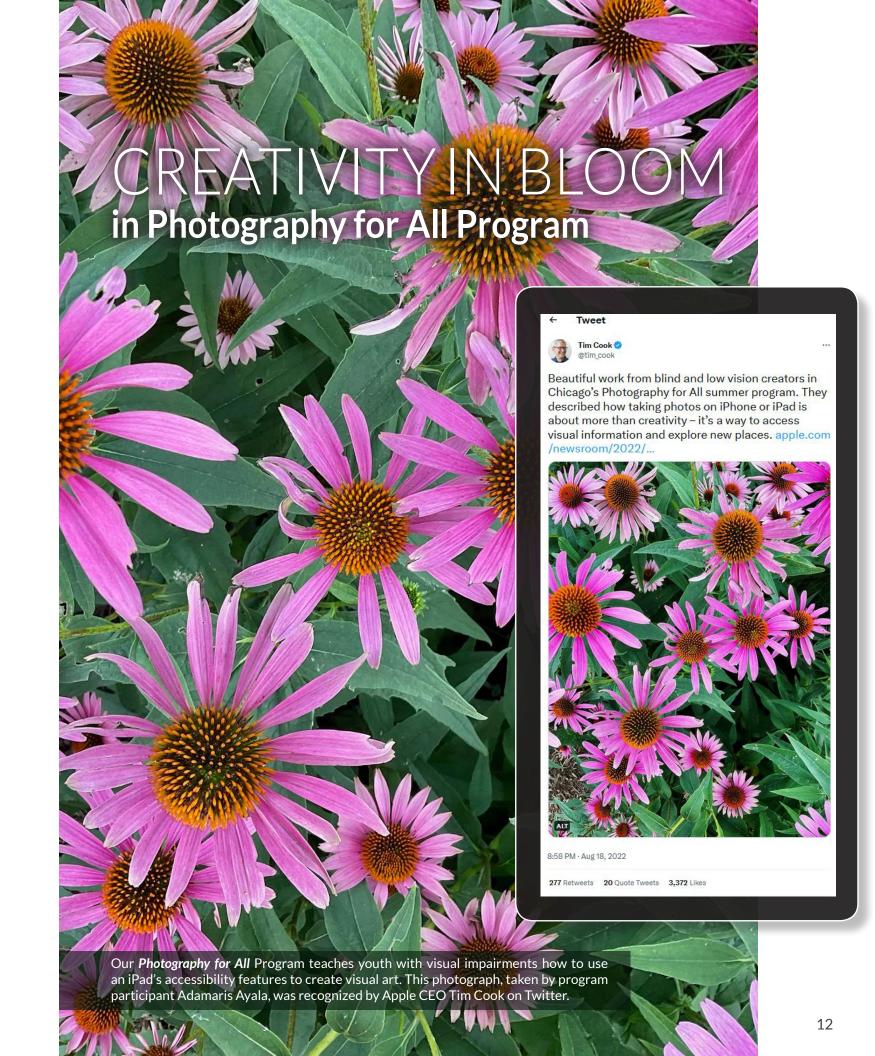
As a community organization, we always want to work with another not-for-profit that is making a difference. We had been working with another organization providing these services, but they were in another state and it wasn't really working out. The services you provide in Chicago and the Midwest are local to us. We also have very similar missions, and it seemed like we would be a great fit.

How has it worked out?

We are really enjoying what we're seeing. The Lighthouse is handling our overflow calls, which means any call that we can't answer within two minutes, as well as those that come in after hours, is picked up by The Lighthouse. As a result, we can help everyone who needs us during busy times.

In March 2023, Mr. Cobb joined The Chicago Lighthouse as Vice President of New Business Development for our Social Enterprise Contact Centers. Welcome to The Lighthouse, Jimm.

Find out more about our Social Business Enterprises at lighthouseenterprises.org.



CELEBRATING ENVISION THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN SUCCESS



Caroline Grossinger. Board Member and Envision the **Future Endowment Campaign** Chair, is a business leader who oversaw a successful automotive enterprise and is now applying that experience to philanthropic causes.

In July 2020, The Chicago Lighthouse launched a campaign to build our endowment and ensure the organization's long-term financial health. In the three years since, over 700 Lighthouse friends committed more than \$19 million to the Envision the Future Endowment Campaign, which will sustain our life-changing work for generations to come.

Caroline Grossinger, Board Member and Chair of the Envision the Future Endowment Campaign, credits the extraordinary success of this effort both to the cause and the donors. "When we began this campaign with a goal of \$7 million, we couldn't have imagined the enthusiastic response from Lighthouse supporters," said Grossinger. "Those who made a gift have invested in the

future of our mission. They are deeply committed to our work providing essential services to individuals

most in-need."

We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the Envision the Future **Endowment Campaign. The Chicago** Lighthouse is a stronger, more impactful organization thanks to your generosity.

The Chicago Lighthouse Endowment Campaign

PLANNED GIVING



MILTON J. SAMUELSON SOCIETY MEMBERS

Friends who have remembered The Chicago Lighthouse in their wills or estate plans or who have made another type of planned gift.

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For information about making a planned gift to The Chicago Lighthouse, please contact Lora Nickels, Senior Director of Individual Giving, at (312) 997-3643 or email lora.nickels@chicagolighthouse.org. If you have remembered us in your will or estate plan, please let us know, so that we can effectively honor your wishes and properly acknowledge your gift.

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\$1,000,000+

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\$500,000-\$999,999

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*Deceased: ^Board Member: ~Staff

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(20+ YEARS OF CONTINUOUS GIVING)

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Corwith Hamill was The Lighthouse's longest continuous donor. When he passed away in 2013 at the age of 99, he had donated to The Lighthouse for the majority of his life. In recognition of Mr. Hamill and his generosity to us, we created a society named in his

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James M. Kesteloot

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IN MEMORIAM

The Chicago Lighthouse was saddened by the recent passing of these friends and supporters. We are grateful for their commitment to our important mission during their lifetimes. Their kindness will be remembered through our good works today and for years to come.

Mr. Sanford A. Bank Mr. Daniel Benninghoven Ms. Davita Bloom Ms. Emily J. Brockman Ms. Mary Buxton Ms. Terry J. Caldrone Mr. John Cardiello Dr. Roy W. Carlson Ms. Nancy Cavey Ms. Margaret Cooney Ms. Sally G. Crooker Mrs. Jeanne I. Dohnalek

Ms. Annette Feldman Ms. Loraine Field Mr. Richard A. Forsythe Mr. David F. Haile Dr. Stephen M. Harrison Mrs. Diane Heller Mr. Howard J. Huber Mr. Ron Katz Mr. Carl Konrath Mr. Sigmund Lefkovitz Mr. Craig Lynch Mrs. Peg Maher

Mr. Frank Mareska Ms. Letizia Moriarty Mrs. Diana Nawrocki Mr. Robert Pascal Mr. William G. Paullin Mr. William Perlman Mrs. Vonita Reescer Ms. Lauren Ross Mr. Steven B. Ross Ms. Christine Samaan Mr. Nolan Schloemer Dr. Susan Sicotte

Mr. Lowell I. Stahl Ms. Phyllis R. Statham Mrs. JoAnne Steinback Mr. Roger W. Stone Mr. Kevin Sullivan Mr. Neal Thayer Ms. Virginia Townsend Ms. Carol M. Welc Ms. Lillian Yannell Mrs. Margaret V. Zelisko

All lists are reflective of the time of publication.

$2021-2022\ Consolidated\ Financial\ Summary\ and\ Comparison$

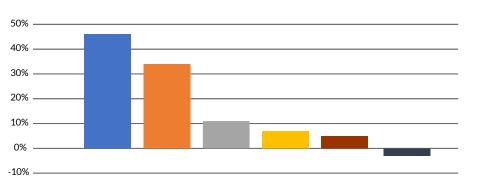
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as of June 30

ASSETS		
	2021	2022
Cash	\$ 6,274,970	\$ 2,328,066
Receivables, Net	7,070,009	13,270,122
Inventories	610,565	799,672
Investments	14,578,750	16,368,684
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts	708,293	566,814
Prepaid Expenses	369,258	157,653
Land, Building and Equipment, Net	9,644,798	9,216,060
Total Assets	\$ 39,256,643	\$ 42,707,071

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities	\$ 12,332,072	\$ 7,044,042
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	8,916,220	7,246,588
Unrestricted, Board Designated	12,510,922	12,990,111
Temporarily Restricted	3,382,410	13,311,312
Permanently Restricted	2,115,018	2,115,018
Subtotal Net Assets	\$ 26,924,571	\$ 35,663,029
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 39,256,643	\$ 42,707,071

REVENUE SOURCES



STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Period ended June 30

REVENUES			
	2021		2022
Contributions & Bequests	\$ 5,777,340	\$	18,031,466
Lighthouse Industries Sales	3,802,526		3,805,923
Call Centers/Service Contracts	31,264,860		24,436,521
Program Revenues	6,204,301		8,291,973
Investment Income	280,868		_
Miscellaneous	_		126,166
Change in Value of Split-Interest Agreements	132,256		(154,916)
Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments	367,022		(1,977,796)
Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation			
of Long Term Investments	1,272,552		329,536
Total Revenues	\$ 49,101,725	\$	52,888,873
EXPENSES			
Program Services	\$ 35,173,943	\$	36,209,553
Management & General	6,176,690		6,369,563
Fundraising	1,290,835		981,880
Public Relations	300,337		589,419
Total Expenses	\$ 42,941,805	\$	44,150,415
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 6,159,920	\$	8,738,458
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 6,159,920 20,764,652	\$ \$	8,738,458 26,924,572

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Social Enterprise 46%
 Contributions/Events 34%
 Program Service Revenues 11%
 Industries & Service Grants 7%
 Govt. Grants & Fees 5%
 Investment Revenues -3%

THE CHICAGO SOCIALIGHT

See and be seen at one of The Chicago Lighthouse's unique and engaging events. Whether it's a poker and casino night, a fashion show, or an evening of decadent desserts, there's always something happening in support of our mission.

a fashion show, or an evening of decadent desserts, there's always something happening in support of our mission.







- 1. The Sweetest Night of the Year! Our Junior Board celebrated a great **Sweets for Sight** event, in support of Lighthouse Children's and Youth Programs, which they hosted at the lively Carnivale restaurant.
- 2. Champions for the blind and visually impaired community. Sandy and, the late, Rick Forsythe were honored as our **Beacon of Light Awardees** at a special dinner last Spring.
- 3. Our **Lader Family Scholarship** awards celebration honored 18 students who are blind, visually impaired or disabled. With The Lighthouse's support, they are realizing their educational dreams.

Be part of the fun! See our UPCOMING EVENTS at chicagolighthouse.org/events













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- 4. Our Associate Board's 36th Annual **House & Garden Walk** featured gorgeous homes from accross the country.
- As part of our First Jobs Program, blind and visually impaired youth showcased their work at the **Photography**for All exhibit held at The Chicago Center for Arts and
 Technology.
- 6. Vice President of Entrepreneurial Programs, Colleen Wunderlich, escorted by Paul Iacono, walked the **FLAIR** runway with her guide dog, Nora.
- 7. Highlight from **FLAIR 2022** featuring (L to R) co-host, Candace Jordan, Honoree Sherry Lea Holson, and co-chairs, Sherrill Bodine and Sheree Schimmer.
- 8. Guests celebrate a great craps roll at our **Raising the Stakes for Vision: Poker & Casino Night.**
- 9. **Light of the Night Honorees**, Carol & Marv Lader pose with Board Member Caroline Grossinger (L) and President & CEO Janet Szlyk, Ph.D. (R) at the Seeing What's Possible Gala.



Providing Pathways to Independence

OUR MISSION

The Chicago Lighthouse is a not-for-profit agency committed to providing the highest quality educational, clinical, vocational and rehabilitation services for children, youth and adults who are blind or visually impaired, including deaf-blind and multi-disabled. The Chicago Lighthouse opens doors to opportunities, choice, jobs and independence for people of all ages who are blind or visually impaired, and in furtherance of this objective, assists and employs people who are otherwise disabled and Veterans.



For 40 years, our Mission Statement has served as The Chicago Lighthouse's North Star, providing direction for our programs and services as we have grown.

Long-term relevance was the goal, recalls Rick Berlet, who led a group of employees and supporters in developing the Mission Statement in the 1980s. "That's what a Mission Statement is supposed to be," he says. "If you're changing it often, you probably haven't done a good job of creating it in the first place."

As they crafted the Mission Statement over several drafts, the team kept coming back to The Lighthouse's commitment to providing pathways to independence for its clients. "That spirit has shaped The Lighthouse ever since," says Berlet, who is now retired in North Carolina. "Every time I come back, I'm pumped up to see how it has been applied to the times."



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