Imagine a world where the challenges we face are just part of what makes us all different—and obstacles are stepping stones on the way to living our dreams.

Throughout our history, The Lighthouse has changed countless lives by creating opportunities for employment, empowerment and independence among those we serve. And we never stop dreaming up new paths going forward.

In this spirit, we created a public awareness campaign last summer to celebrate access and inclusion. We encouraged everyone to imagine and strive for a world of boundless opportunity for all.

What do you think is possible?

...anything you can IMAGINE
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ON THE COVER: Artist Dan Capuli captures the infectious energy of Lighthouse client Daniel Semro. We think of him as our resident “rock star.” Daniel loves to perform and inspire others through his YouTube channel, where he shares his everyday experiences as a young adult living with visual and developmental disabilities.

REELED IN: A young child is fascinated when she sees a goldfish wearing glasses just like hers on a lighthouse sculpture located outside The Chicago Lighthouse’s Glenview location.
DEAR FRIENDS,

The year 2018 marked an unprecedented moment of outreach for our organization, as The Lighthouse’s message of access and inclusion for people with disabilities reached millions through a landmark public art display.

Artists from all walks of life answered our call to create Lighthouses on the Mag Mile™. The exhibition featured more than 50 six-foot-tall lighthouse sculptures, each uniquely embellished with powerful expressions of persistence, empowerment and joy. Visionary businesses and organizations also demonstrated their commitment to access and inclusion by sponsoring the exhibition.

Throughout the summer, countless Chicagoans, tourists, and social media followers engaged with the exhibition and with our community. Soon, our message of inclusivity resonated around the globe, sparked by national and international media coverage of the exhibition.

Here at The Lighthouse, we felt more love than we could have ever imagined.

It’s in this spirit that we write this love letter back—an appreciation and a celebration of those who dare to imagine new possibilities.

In the following pages, we’re proud to showcase the accomplishments of those we serve, as well as of those who sustain us. We hope you’ll share the joy we feel as we convey their stories.

In 2018, we also felt profound sadness as we said goodbye to two longtime board members and donors who generously supported our mission for many years: Beatrice Cummings Mayer, who helped build
This year marked Dr. Janet Szlyk’s 10-year anniversary as President and CEO of The Chicago Lighthouse. She is only the second woman to lead our organization in its 113-year history. Under her leadership, we have dramatically expanded our clinical care and research as well as our social enterprise operations.

A career rehabilitation scientist in the field of low vision, Dr. Szlyk’s first step was to establish the Low Vision Research Program. Guided by her expertise, our lab has emerged as an innovation leader in the field.

Dr. Szlyk also established our customer care centers, a game-changing way to advance our mission. Today, we employ more than 600 individuals, many of whom are blind, visually impaired, disabled or Veterans, as service agents for partners like UI Health and the Illinois Tollway.

On behalf of our team and our entire community, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Gary Rich
Chair, Board of Directors

Janet P. Szlyk, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

Congratulations, Dr. Szlyk!
BY THE NUMBERS | 2018

EMPLOYMENT
35%
Of our 1,000 employees, 250 are blind or visually impaired. 100 have another disability or are Veterans. In total, 35% of our workforce represents a community we serve through our mission.

KANE LEGAL CLINIC
96%
The first and only legal clinic of its kind, the Kane Legal Clinic served 253 clients who are blind or visually impaired and successfully resolved 96% of its cases.

SENIORS PROGRAM
360
We offered over 360 programming events to older adults ages 55 and up who face vision loss.

CRIS RADIO
2,200
At the CRIS Radio station, volunteers spent more than 2,200 hours annually reading newspapers and magazines over the air to people who are print impaired.

DEAF-BLIND PROGRAM
478
478 individuals with combined vision and hearing loss accessed support services, crisis intervention, tech training and advocacy through our Deaf-Blind Program.

CUSTOMER CARE CENTERS
653
653 agents, including 170 who are blind, visually impaired, disabled or Veterans, were employed by our Customer Care Centers.

We’ve begun construction on a 100-seat expansion to our Customer Care Centers.

EDUCATION
190 children and their families in the Chicago area got a bright start with home-based support provided by the Birth-to-Three Early Intervention Program.
Our Scholarship Program awarded over $60,000 to 30 college and graduate students who are blind or visually impaired.

VISION CARE
4,312
Our Vision Care Services provided 4,312 patients with personalized care.
A total of 2,940 people discovered the best tech for their individual needs between both locations of the Sandy Forsythe Assistive Technology Center.

CHARITY NAVIGATOR
Donors can be 100% confident that they are supporting an organization given a four star rating by Charity Navigator, the highest rating a nonprofit can earn.

ILLINOIS INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER
4,804
We provided Braille textbooks and other assistive materials to 4,804 students with visual disabilities.

ADULT LIVING SKILLS
42
Through our Adult Living Skills Program, 42 individuals who are blind or visually impaired with developmental disabilities learned vital skills for independence.
“This child is ready for a talk show,” says Birth-to-Three Early Intervention Specialist Susie Kuranishi of Wilson Huertas, who she met when he was just a baby.

Today, five-year-old Wilson attends The Judy and Ray McCaskey Preschool at The Lighthouse along with his little sister Nazli, age three. Though both siblings have visual impairments, they’re bright, confident and thriving as they learn and grow alongside children with and without disabilities.

The kids’ mom Jerilyn and dad Ralph are both legally blind. “They’re excellent parents,” says Susie. “They know from experience that Wilson and Nazli need plenty of opportunities to explore their independence.”

The Huertas’ are a busy, close-knit family with two older daughters, ages 10 and eight, who have normal eyesight and pitch in to help with everyday tasks.

“The whole family is always laughing,” says Lee Burklund, principal of the preschool. “They’re so full of joy.”

Parents of children who are visually impaired, understandably, tend to worry—but sometimes too much. Finding everyday joy while encouraging freedom and discovery is critical at home as well as in the classroom, say Lee and Susie.

“Our students learn to celebrate their achievements and those of their peers,” says Lee. “Developing friendships, compassion and joy is critical to a child’s well-being.”
“Many women my age would have conceded to this eye disease, but I love my independence,” says Dolores Climack, a longtime patient of the Low Vision Clinic within the Forsythe Center for Comprehensive Vision Care who has macular degeneration.

Prior to her first visit 12 years ago, everyday tasks like reading, paying bills and cooking were a challenge. With individualized care from the clinic and its network of services, she’s been able to adapt to life with low vision and keep doing the things she loves.

“The tools and training the Low Vision Clinic provided have been instrumental to me,” Dolores says. “I can watch TV, listen to books, continue to cook for myself and take care of all the daily tasks that arise.”

Her toolbox includes a Lookie, a device that helps her with “quick reads” like recipes and news clippings. She uses a telescopic device to watch her grandchild’s sporting events and a magnifier that assists her with other reading. An occupational therapist set up her kitchen, bathroom and bedroom “with great little tricks to help me adjust,” she says. “The Low Vision Clinic gives me the encouragement and confidence to live alone and know that I can function on my own.”
BROADENING OUR SCOPE

The Low Vision Clinic improves the lives of people of all ages who have visual impairments, from babies to seniors. Now, we are able to treat more patients than ever, thanks to five new staff optometrists who allow us to offer clinical care five days a week at both the Chicago and Glenview locations.

“It’s a direct response to a growing need,” says Dr. Kara Crumbliss, vice president, Low Vision Services. “The aging population and a growing need for vision rehabilitation is something Dr. Szlyk and I have been preparing for ever since she came on board ten years ago.

In 2018, the main focus was to grow our clinic staff and expand our service offerings so we’re better able to meet our patients’ needs.”

More doctors mean wait times have plummeted from 10-12 weeks to just one or two.

“We didn’t think that a patient should have to wait three months to be able to read again,” Dr. Crumbliss says. “And since our low vision clinics are primarily referral-based, this gives us the opportunity to grow alongside patient demand.”

HILTON FOUNDATION FUNDS PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

In 2018, we received a generous grant from the Hilton Foundation to fund a new research center, The Hilton Center for Prosthetic Vision Rehabilitation. This will be the first of its kind in the nation for investigating emerging technologies geared toward patients with Ultra Low Vision. Our lab will be the testing site for groundbreaking new tech, such as an intracortical visual prosthesis (ICVP) that will aim to restore visual perception for those who are blind. The ICVP project, developed in collaboration with IIT, Johns Hopkins University, The University of Chicago and The University of Texas at Dallas, is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and BRAIN Initiative.
SEE CHANGE: ADVOCATING FOR EMPLOYMENT

“We want to sound a clarion call and urge more Chicago-area businesses to hire more members of the disabled and Veteran communities,” our President and CEO Dr. Szlyk wrote in a Daily Herald op-ed this past January. “It creates a more inclusive and vibrant environment and helps boost the bottom line. Statistics have shown higher retention rates for people with disabilities ... It’s also the right thing to do.”

The statistics are stunning: more than 70% of working-age people who are blind or visually impaired are unemployed. But there are plenty of jobs they can do with minimal accommodations. Equipment like magnifying devices or screen reading software costs less than you might think. We help employers make that happen.

In 2018, we continued our commitment to Veterans through the Veterans’ Employment Empowerment Project, which focuses on comprehensive career development and training for Veterans with and without disabilities.

We also partner with a growing number of companies, including Walgreens (see p.13), Mariano’s and Blue Cross Blue Shield, to place qualified individuals in competitive positions.

“If given the chance, they’re going to knock it out of the ballpark for you every time,” says former Mariano’s HR Director James Haugen about the employees we’ve helped them hire. “It’s been an amazing success.”
COMING HOME

“It’s amazing how much my life has changed since I started working here,” says Patrice Jackson, who works as an agent at the Illinois Tollway Call Center.

Patrice served four years in the U.S. Army before being honorably discharged due to medical reasons. “After my service, I was homeless for two years, moving from shelter to shelter until I was hired by The Chicago Lighthouse,” she says.

Today, Patrice is a homeowner with her own condo in downtown Chicago. “I worked really hard to get where I am today,” she says. “I can support myself and my seven-year-old son, who is autistic. I’m also autistic, so it’s great to work for an organization that does so much for both the disabled and Veteran communities.”

FROM ONE WINNING TEAM TO ANOTHER

When Elizabeth Coleman came to The Lighthouse for employment placement services in 2017, she was “frustrated and confounded,” she says. “Now, I’m positioned to be independent.”

As a job seeker who’s legally blind, she faced a common problem: rejection from employers who didn’t understand what she could offer. She had been out of work for five years.

With counseling and job skills training from our team, Elizabeth learned how to put her best foot forward. We helped place her with the Chicago Cubs last year.

It couldn’t have happened, she says, without the support of The Lighthouse. “My job is a dream come true that’s customized to meet my accessibility needs,” she says.
New Friends, New Adventures

Olivia never imagined that an eye exam could lead to a ski trip.

She’s a bright, hardworking high-school senior bound for college this fall. When she and her mom came to the Low Vision Clinic at The Chicago Lighthouse North last December, a technician suggested they talk to Youth Transition Program (YTP) Manager Shelle Hamer.

Olivia has low vision due to glaucoma, but prior to visiting us, “she had never even met another person who is visually impaired,” Shelle says. “Now, she’s making new friends in our program.” Like Olivia, they’re also navigating young adulthood while living with visual impairments.

“Energetic Olivia quickly signed up for every youth transition event we’ve scheduled this year,” Shelle notes. “She recently hit the slopes with us on a trip to Alpine Valley Ski Resort, sponsored by the American Blind Skiing Foundation.”

Funding Helps to Expand Program

The YTP always makes room for new friends—and there are more every year.

There were 66 youth that signed up in 2016, 88 in 2017 and 95 last year. That’s a 44% increase!

In November, our youth programs were the focus of The Lighthouse’s annual Giving Tuesday campaign, which raised $31,960 for YTP, thanks in part to a $10,000 challenge gift from Lighthouse Board Member Marv Lader and his wife Carol.

“Those funds allowed us to continue to have excellent programming,” Shelle says. “We added another week of Summer in the City and expanded our First Jobs program. Both created more opportunity for more kids.”
IMAGINE...COMMUNITY

Learn the latest ways to support our mission. Discover cutting-edge assistive tech. Mark your calendar for our next event. Get a daily dose of inspiration. Share our mission with a friend.

FOLLOW US @ chicagolighthouse and be a beacon
“Consider the dandelion as a metaphor,” says Kaitlin Stober. “A solitary bloom found a crack in the sidewalk and resiliently decided it would grow, perhaps where it wasn’t wanted, or wasn’t welcomed.”

Kaitlin’s artwork “Weeds” was inspired by her brother, who has Down Syndrome. She’s just one of the 100-plus visionary artists who took part in the Lighthouses on the Mag Mile™ public art exhibition last summer.

For Kaitlin, dandelions can help us understand the experience of people with disabilities. Just as they’re stigmatized as mere “weeds,” the stigma of disability “clouds our appreciation for what this substantial community of people has to offer the world.”

“Inclusion must be addressed at the root,” she says.

The display included 51 vibrant, hand-decorated lighthouse sculptures, each standing six feet tall, installed along North Michigan Avenue and adjacent areas.

On the street, audiences could listen to artists’ commentary through the OTOCAST mobile app. Individuals who are blind could experience the exhibit through the AWARE app.

Each lighthouse had a unique aesthetic and backstory, but together they express an overall message: recognize, celebrate and advocate for access and inclusion for people with disabilities.

This ambitious public art display took place...
during the busiest season of a year in which Chicago hosted a record number of visitors. The response was extraordinary.

Media coverage of the exhibition, including a segment on CBS Sunday Morning in July, reached more than 160 million Americans. Its message reached overseas, too, when KBS, South Korea’s top news channel, reported on the event.

*Lighthouses on the Mag Mile* reached an audience of over eight million through social media, including a video series that highlighted a new lighthouse each day. A Plus, a positive journalism online site, founded by celebrity Ashton Kutcher also shared our story.

The best part? The project inspired other organizations to express interest in launching similar exhibitions in their own communities. Our marketing team developed a tool kit to support their efforts.

We can’t wait to see what happens next.

Referencing Mark Twain, “*Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see,*” said our President and CEO Dr. Janet Szlyk at the exhibition’s opening.

The Lighthouse is proud to have started the conversation. Let’s keep it going!

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**Industrious Spirit: Mag Mile Artist Lands Job at Lighthouse Industries**

As an artist with autism, Mario Rodriguez uses painting to communicate with others. He and his father Bernardino created one of the “wildest” lighthouses in the Mag Mile display.

Everyone loved Mario’s menagerie of endangered animals from around the world, including The Lighthouse staff.

“We heard Mario was looking for a new job and immediately wanted to add him to our team,” says Heidi Ashwell, director of operations, Lighthouse Industries.

In the clock shop, Mario is a material handling assistant. “Because 85% of our staff is legally blind, they can’t see things that land on the floor,” Heidi explains. “Mario keeps our environment clean and safe.”

He also has a talent for quality control, she says, and is training to take on new challenges.

Mario always has a warm greeting for everyone, says Heidi, recalling the individualized holiday cards he gave in appreciation for feeling comfortable and valued at work.

“It’s mutual,” she says. “The appreciation goes both ways!”

---

Lighthouses on the Mag Mile™ was presented in partnership with Huber Financial Advisors, LLC and many other generous businesses and individuals, including The Magnificent Mile® Association.
Last summer, they lined Chicago’s busiest thoroughfare. Today, the lighthouses from our one-of-a-kind public art exhibition brighten homes, offices and organizations around the country.

Many of these extraordinary artworks sold at a charity auction with proceeds supporting our programs. Bidders included lighthouse aficionados, private collectors with a personal interest in disability advocacy and businesses seeking to create an inspiring workplace.

You’ll find “The Pet Impressionist” outside Scooter’s Frozen Custard in Lakeview, “Eye Wonder” in a River Forest public park and “We Bloom” on a private pier in Marco Island, Florida.

Several generous supporters donated lighthouses to local organizations: “Our Woven Lighthouse” to Friedman Place, “Lovely Helen” to the American Foundation for the Blind, “Special Olympics” to the Special Olympics office in Lombard and “Touch and See” to the Illinois School for the Visually Impaired.

We were also fortunate to receive the donations of two very special lighthouses: “Chicago Treasure,” which now inspires the children at our preschool, and “Hooked on Reading,” which has a new home at The Lighthouse North.

If you spot a Mag Mile lighthouse in your community, share it online!

SHARE #MagMileLighthouses, @chicagolighthouse
New homes for Lighthouses

- Am Shalom Congregation—Glencoe, IL
- American Foundation for the Blind—Arlington, VA
- Banner Wholesale Grocers—Chicago, IL
- Chicago Lighthouse Children’s Development Center—Chicago, IL
- Chicago Lighthouse North—Glenview, IL
- Cooperative Association for Special Education—Glen Ellyn, IL
- Freedom Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram Dealership—Virden, IL
- Friedman Place—Chicago, IL
- Grandview Apartments by Albion—Columbus, OH
- Home—Carmel, IN
- Home—Chicago, IL (2)
- Home—Elk Grove, IL
- Home—Glencoe, IL
- Home—Highland Park, IL (3)
- Home—Holland, MI
- Home—Northfield, IL
- Home—Springfield, IL
- Huber Financial Advisors, LLC—Chicago, IL
- Huber Financial Advisors, LLC—Lincolnshire, IL
- Illinois Tollway Customer Care Center—Chicago, IL
- Lake House—Danville, IL (4)
- Lake House—Lake Geneva, WI
- Lawrence Fisheries—Chicago, IL
- Lurie Children’s Hospital—Chicago, IL
- Pier - Marco Island, FL
- River Forest Bocce Court—River Forest, IL
- Scooter’s Ice Cream—Chicago, IL
- Special Olympics Illinois Northern Regional Office —Lombard, IL
- True Value Headquarters—Chicago, IL
- UI Health Craniofacial Center—Chicago, IL
“This was our first job right out of school, so we were super excited to get the opportunity to earn some money and gain new experience!”

That comment summed up the feelings of two local high school seniors, Rupa and Me’lia, both of whom are visually impaired. They both gained employment this past summer through a partnership between The Chicago Lighthouse and Walgreens.

Rupa and Me’lia were hired to work in customer service by a Walgreens store in downtown Chicago.

To compensate for their lack of vision, they relied on touch to perform such tasks as sorting and stocking products.

“I memorized the layout of the entire store so I could locate items independently,” said Rupa who is blind and uses a white cane. She did such a good job that the store manager, Jennifer Giordano, observed that Rupa seemed to possess an encyclopedic knowledge on where things were.

“Just because people with disabilities like ours may go about our tasks differently, doesn’t mean that we can’t get the job done,” Me’lia pointed out.

“We couldn’t be prouder of Rupa and Me’lia, who, through their hard work, became valuable members of our team,” said Ms. Giordano.

She encourages other companies to take advantage of what people with disabilities can offer.
Beatrice Cummings Mayer | 1921 – 2018

When Beatrice Cummings Mayer passed away last September at 97, she left an indelible mark on organizations large and small, including our own. **Mrs. Mayer often said, ‘with privilege comes responsibility,’ her Sun-Times obituary notes.** As an heiress and a lifelong activist, she lived by those words.

In mid-century Chicago, she and her husband Robert were prolific art collectors instrumental in founding the Museum of Contemporary Art. At the same time, she upheld a deep commitment to social justice as a member of the ‘60s civil rights group, “Wednesdays in Mississippi.”

To us, Mrs. Mayer was an active Board Member and passionate advocate for our community of care. She imagined a dedicated gathering place for the seniors we serve. Then she kicked off the campaign that built it with a $2 million gift.

“Mrs. Mayer was a longtime friend of The Lighthouse who is missed by so many,” says Jennifer Miller, chief development officer. “Her passion was the Seniors, whether it was purchasing them iPads so they could learn how to communicate with loved ones or providing seed money for our Seniors Center.”

Walter Nathan | 1928 – 2018

Born in Germany, Walter Nathan emigrated to Chicago as a child in 1938. He went on to earn a degree in engineering before serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and marrying Ann, his wife of 68 years.

Shortly after the war, he co-founded RTC Industries, which evolved from manufacturing paper tubes and cores to creating retail displays for the world’s biggest brands. Today, Rolling Meadows-based RTC operates in 13 countries.

Mr. Nathan’s entrepreneurial spirit was matched only by his generosity and commitment to the causes he championed, including the American Jewish Committee and his alma mater, IIT.

As a Board Member of The Chicago Lighthouse since 2013, Mr. Nathan was a hands-on partner. He used his retail display expertise to develop kiosks for Industries’ clocks and was instrumental in getting them into Target stores.

After he passed away in November at 95, we were honored to be among four designated charities receiving contributions in his memory.

“**Walter was an incredible man who put his heart and soul into helping us,**” says President and CEO Dr. Janet Szlyk. “**We were fortunate to have had such a brilliant and caring friend.**"
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For information about making a Planned Gift to The Chicago Lighthouse, please contact Jen Miller, chief development officer, at (312) 997-3643 or email jennifer.miller@chicagolighthouse.org. If you have remembered us in your will or estate plan, please let us know so that we may properly honor you!

The Delta Gamma chapter of the University of Chicago volunteers at the Seniors Program Holiday Party. The sorority’s philanthropy, “Service for Sight,” supports organizations that promote sight preservation and conservation. This commitment has been at the heart of the Delta Gamma mission since 1936.
THE CORWITH HAMILL SOCIETY

The Corwith Hamill Society honors and recognizes our long-term donors. Gold is for twenty or more years of continuous giving; silver is for fifteen; bronze is for ten.

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 memory.

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Mr. and Mrs. Mark H. Leeds
Mrs. Pamela Leslie
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Levenstein
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Mrs. Debra F. Lewin
Mrs. Lynne Green Lieber
Ms. Mary Anne Limbos
Mrs. Patricia M. Livingston
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Mr. David O. MacKenzie
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Malinowski
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Mrs. Susan A. Mandell
Mrs. Nina Mann
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Max Goldenberg Foundation
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Mr. and Mrs. Zygmun K. Sokolnicki
Mrs. Mary Ann Spyrisin
Ms. Sharon J. Stanley
Rabbi Steven Lowenstein and Mrs. Julie Stark-Lowenstein
Mr. Leonard F. Stein
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald A. Stepp
Ms. Pamela Stern
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip L. Stern
Mr. Warren G. Stober
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Stone
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Strack
Mr. Thomas Swigart, Jr.
Drs. Janet P. Szyk and Jeffrey M. Jackson
Mr. Kenneth L. Tarnoff
Mr. Thomas Theodore
Tinley Park Lioness Club
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Mr. John L. Toboja
Topfer Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Tryba
Mr. Eric F. Ulaszek
Union Pacific Foundation
Ms. Lydia Usha
Ms. Shirley A. Vallort
Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Vitu
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Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Weertman
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Windle
Mr. and Mrs. Edmund F. Wisz
Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Young
Mr. and Mrs. Jerrold H. Zar
Ms. Helene S. Zarcone
IN-KIND KINDNESS

8 Hospitality
Alice Benjamin Interiors
Anne Fontaine
Anonymous
Annoyance Theater
Anthony Cristiano
Auditorium Theatre
Basil Leaf Café
Beatrix
Bentley’s Pet Stuff
Karen Berns
Binny’s
Lisa Birmingham
Blick Art Materials
Bluestone
Margaret Brabowski
Buddy Guy’s Legends
Caesars Entertainment
Cafe Ba Ba Reba
Cafe Bionda
Candylicious
Lion Richard Carlson
Carnivale
CH Carolina Herrera
Cheryl’s Cookies
Chicago a Cappella
Chicago Architecture Foundation
Chicago Blackhawks
Chicago Bulls
Chicago Cubs
Chicago History Museum
Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile
Chicago Opera Theater
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Chicago Sky
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Chicago White Sox
Chicago Wolves
Chicago’s First Lady
Chicagoland Speedway
Colin of London Salon & Salt Therapy
Contessa Bottega
Cooper Fox Gastro Pub
Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant
Core & Rind Hospitality
CorePower Yoga
Courtyard Marriott Mag Mile
Catherine Cox
Dana Hotel and Spa
Dennis Bartolomei Salon
Depot Nuevo/The Noodle Do-Rite Donuts
DreadDri
Dusek’s Board & Beer
East Bank Club
Ebert Fine Art Portraiture
Entertainment Cruises
FEW Spirits
Firecakes Donuts
Flirty Girl Fitness
Flossmoor Station
Food for Thought
Four Seasons Hotel Chicago
Fred Astair Dance Studio
Freehand Chicago
Stanley Freehling
Gage Hospitality Group
Gene Siskel Film Center
Gentleman’s Cooperative
Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse
Richard Godfrey
Janet and Robert Golivnux
Goodman Theatre
Gordon Salon
Gourmet Expos
Greek Island Restaurant
Mary Anne Grice
Ed Guruber
Hard Rock Café Chicago
Lynette Harris
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Lisa Hilton
Kati Hochstadt
Horseshoe Casino
Howells and Hoos
Hyatt Centric Magnificent Mile
Icon Poly
iFLY Indoor Skydiving
IL Sports Facilities Authority
Impact 365
Lindsay Inglis
Italian Village Restaurants
Jane Skin Care Studio
Jen Hanson Jewelry
Jewell Animal Hospital
Todd Kempton
Kendra Scott
Knot Standard
Tim Kolschowsky
Koval Distillery
Lagunitas Brewing Company
Land and Lake Kitchen
Leah Chavie Skincare Center & Boutique
Leggiadro
Lettuce Entertain You
Lincoln Park Athletic Club
Lou Malnati’s Pizza
Macy’s State Street
Manny’s Coffee Shop & Deli
Maple & Ash
Margie’s Candies
Carol Mark
Massage Envy
John Mendelak
Mercury-Chicago’s Skyline Cruiseline
Irene Michaels
Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago
Music Box Theater
Music of the Baroque
Music Theater Works
Northlight Theater
Northwestern Men’s Golf
Northwestern University Athletics
O’Donovan’s Pub & Restaurant
One Eleven Events – Macy’s
Orland Park Bowl/Mickadoon’s
Piccolo Sogno
Pin Stripers River East
Gail Pollard
Portillos
Bob Pulford
Reggie’s Music Joint
Revolution Brewing
Rivers Casino
Roger Beck Portraits
Rosebud Chocolates
Rosebud Restaurants
Robert Rourke
Scott Rubenstein
Steven Ruden
Gayle Ruden
Rosanna Ruscetti
Scooter’s Frozen Custard
Sensible Innovations
Sephora
Shaw’s Crab House
Shine Asian Cuisine & Sushi Bar
Morrie Silverman
Lashawn Simmons
Siren Salon
Gerald Sivels
Six Flags Great America
Skydeck Chicago
Smylie Brothers Brewing Co.
Sports Clips
Sprinkles Cupcakes
Steppenwolf Theater
Tim Streng
Stuart-Rogers Photography
Tasting de Vine Cellars
Gary Taylor
The Blackstone Hotel
The Chopping Block
The Dinner Detective
The Duck Inn
The Field Museum
The Godfrey Hotel Chicago
The Second City
Angela Tickert
Top Golf
Trader Joe’s in Glenview
Truluck’s
Tufanos & Erie Cafe
Under Armour
Urban Oasis
Vanille Patisseries
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The Lighthouse Keepers are a group of special friends of The Lighthouse who annually give $1,000 or more. We regret we cannot list every donor but thank you so much to each and every one! (Cumulative gifts over $1,000 July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

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Lions Club of Grayslake Foundation
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Staff Management
True Value
Mr. Pete and Mrs. Pam Tully
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United Service Companies
Mrs. Mamie Walton
Samuel Weinstein Family Foundation
Woodward, Inc.
Harold D. and Hazel C. Wright Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Young
George H. Zendt Charitable Trust
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Athletico
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Mr. and Mrs. James E. Bransen
Mr. Tom Brean
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Brinshorpe Development, LLC
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Mr. and Mrs. William Buecking
Mr. Joseph Bunta
Ms. Reute Butler
Mr. Gregory Calhoun
Mr. Ray Capitanini
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Mr. John D. Chaney
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Chicago Stereo Camera Club
Clarendon Hills Lions Club
Lion Chris Coleman
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Cooper Management Co., LLC
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Mr. Ed Cruikshank
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Curley
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Delta Controls Chicago, INC.
Alex Demond Fund
District 1-A Lions Clubs
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George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities
Ellie Jay LLC
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Mr. Bruce W. Foudree and Ms. Suzanne Reade
Ms. Gen Furla
Mrs. Kris A. Glicken
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Jocarno Fund
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Mr. Tim Kenrick
Gerald A. & Karen A. Kolschowsky Foundation
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Mr. Harry L. Lawson
Mrs. Debra Learner
Mrs. Debra F. Lewin
LineageCRE / Abart Properties Corporation
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Mrs. Nina Mann
Mattingly Low Vision, Inc.
MAXIMUS Foundation
McLean Foundation
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Mr. A.J. Melaragno
Ms. Irene Michaels
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Mr. Joseph M. Weil
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wellek
Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Weller
Mr. Robert Wernet
Whole Beauty Institute
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Wiersbe
Mr. Harvey W. Wittenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Zentner
*deceased
## 2017 - 2018 Consolidated Financial Summary and Comparison

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

*as of June 30*

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$2,047,013</td>
<td>$613,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables, Net</td>
<td>$6,159,461</td>
<td>$6,263,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>$569,471</td>
<td>$646,424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$11,699,343</td>
<td>$13,412,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trusts</td>
<td>$550,232</td>
<td>$574,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>$371,936</td>
<td>$189,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, Building and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>$11,513,055</td>
<td>$10,731,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,910,511</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,431,971</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>$7,452,444</td>
<td>$7,413,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$11,142,145</td>
<td>$9,469,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted, Board Designated</td>
<td>$8,842,261</td>
<td>$10,070,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>$3,478,761</td>
<td>$3,457,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>$1,994,900</td>
<td>$2,021,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,458,067</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,018,567</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,910,511</strong></td>
<td><strong>$32,431,971</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REVENUE SOURCES**

- Social Enterprise: 64%
- Contributions: 10%
- Industries & Service Contracts: 11%
- Govt. Grants & Fees: 7%
- Other: 1%
- Program Service Revenues: 6%
- Investment Revenues: 1%
# STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

*Period ended June 30*

## REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Bequests</td>
<td>$5,675,808</td>
<td>$4,884,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighthouse Industries Sales</td>
<td>3,748,068</td>
<td>3,692,326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call Centers/Service Contracts</td>
<td>26,504,742</td>
<td>31,031,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Revenues</td>
<td>5,652,176</td>
<td>5,777,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>284,064</td>
<td>309,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>284,708</td>
<td>284,681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Value of Split-Interest Agreements</td>
<td>34,249</td>
<td>15,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Realized Gain/(Loss) on Investments</td>
<td>478,747</td>
<td>430,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Change in Unrealized Appreciation of Long Term Investments</td>
<td>351,900</td>
<td>(202,651)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Revenues** $43,014,462 $46,224,328

## EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$35,841,541</td>
<td>$39,674,480</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>4,711,978</td>
<td>5,468,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>873,792</td>
<td>1,065,475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>438,928</td>
<td>455,746</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses** $41,866,239 $46,663,828

## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</td>
<td>$24,309,844</td>
<td>$25,458,067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets at End of Year</td>
<td>$25,458,067</td>
<td>$25,018,567</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A CLOSER LOOK

There’s always something happening at The Lighthouse. Even some of our best friends are still surprised at how many programs we offer. What’s new to you?

The **Music Therapy** program at The Lighthouse North promotes children’s language and social development through singing songs and playing musical instruments.

Our **Assistive Technology** team travels frequently throughout the year across the Chicago area to demonstrate innovative products that aid independent living.

The **Illinois Instructional Materials Center** relocated to The Lighthouse from Springfield in 2003. We provide alternative-format educational materials, such as Braille and large-print textbooks, to schools across the state.

The Lighthouse is committed to **community service**. Staff members volunteer at an annual holiday food drive in partnership with the Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church. In addition, we purchase new winter items for individuals in need, thanks to the generosity of The Associate Board.
Launched in 2004, our Scholarship Program has grown to become one of the largest of its kind in the country. We’ve awarded nearly $1 million in funds to more than 700 college and grad students who are visually impaired.

The participants in our Seniors Program love our classes! They are active, engaged and never stop learning. We keep up with them by hosting group exercise, technology training, book clubs and more.

Our Adult Living Skills participants are endlessly inspiring. They sell candy and snacks to fund their own field trips: museums, boat tours and more.

Our “house band,” VisionQuest, has been at it since 1985. They’ve recorded two albums, performed with local musical theater casts and been profiled by multiple media outlets.
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Chicago Lighthouse Industries Launches Online Retail Shop

Two years ago and 40 years young, Lighthouse Industries made itself over, rolling out a new line of fashion-forward clocks for the retail home-decor market, available at select Target locations, Target.com, Overstock.com and Amazon.com.

Just a year later, we were proud to launch our very own e-commerce site, where customers can browse and buy more than 150 clock models. And we discovered a new niche. “Locally-themed clock faces resonate passionately with retail consumers,” says Product Manager Richard Sullivan, noting that the Chicago flag and CTA map designs were best-sellers.

To capitalize on the trend, Industries introduced the first phase of its new Favorite Cities Series, featuring iconic symbols of New York, Minneapolis, Seattle, Washington, D.C., Boston, San Francisco and Los Angeles. It also added new clocks to its line for children, who often struggle with learning to tell time, Sullivan says. “We developed clocks with hands that are different shapes and colors, so kids can clearly see which one is which.”

And for those of us who could never quite tell, take heart: our once analog-only shop added digital clocks to its product mix in 2017. Last year, sales in this category grew 334%.

SHOP chicagolighthouseclocks.com
LEADERS IN ACTION  This list is reflective for the time of publication.

We’re led by a dedicated team of doctors, researchers, administrators, creative professionals and community members with expertise in health care, public policy, business and advocacy.

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Director, Deaf/Blind Services
ABOVE: Several members of the Lighthouse Associate Board are shown with one of the lighthouses in front of the First Bank of Highland Park’s Ruth Fell Wander Wall. The exhibit celebrated the contributions made by the Board to The Chicago Lighthouse.

ABOVE: The Junior Board of The Chicago Lighthouse gathers at its annual February Sweets for Sight evening, benefiting programs for children who are blind or visually impaired.

ABOVE: Lion Chris Coleman created 2018’s “coolest” fundraiser—the opportunity to skate at the Blackhawks’ practice rink before cheering them on at a game. Left: the winner of a Lighthouse Industries Blackhawks clock signed by Patrick Kane. Center: Lighthouse employee Brett Shishkoff (right) and his father, Paul. Right: Attendees enjoy a pre-game skate.
THE **CHICAGO SOCIALIGHT**

See and be seen at one of The Chicago Lighthouse’s unique and fun events. Whether it’s a casino and poker night, a fashion show, or an evening of decadent desserts, there’s an event for you to support The Lighthouse mission.

1. **2018 FLAIR** fashion show Honoree Candace Jordan with Co-Chairs Sherrill Bodine & Sheree Valukas and 2017 recipient, Cheri Lawrence.
2. Junior Board Member Jason Stanford and his guests enjoy the Board’s **Sips for Sight** event.
3. Lighthouse Industries employee Leon Taylor and President & CEO Janet Szlyk presenting the Light of the Night Award to Alexandra Johnston at the **Seeing What’s Possible Gala**.
4. Over 200 ladies from Chicago’s North Shore enjoying an afternoon of Canasta, Mahjongg and Bridge at the Associate Board’s **Games Galore**.
5. **Gala** Honorees Steve & Georgiann Pangere enjoying cocktails with a few friends.
6. Accomplished Jazz Pianist Lisa Hilton at the 8th Annual Jazz Night.

7. Associate Board Executive Committee members Haley Baer, Sheila Moss, Fran Pine and Joani Oslan enjoying another successful House & Garden Walk.

8. Junior Board Co-Chair Holly Brown taking in Sweets for Sight with fellow Junior Board Member Sean Tehrani and friends.


10. Jane Zappala modeling a gown from Mira Couture at our FLAIR fashion show.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Seeing What’s Possible Annual Gala
Friday, June 14, 2019

Associate Board House & Garden Walk
Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Scholarship Awards Celebration
Saturday, July 13, 2019

Friday, September 13, 2019

Junior Board Sips for Sight
Fall 2019

Associate Board Style for Sight
December, 2019

Samuelson/Hamill Breakfast
December, 2019
IMAGINE

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EDITOR  Dominic Calabrese
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