

Message from the Executive Director

Technology Only Part of the Story

I originally thought this edition was going to be all about Technology and the Workplace. Then I met Dr. Lenora Brinson, a Lighthouse of Broward graduate and local entrepreneur. Once again I was reminded that the technical skills taught at the Lighthouse are only part of the story. Equally important is the emotional support from highly skilled, empathic case managers. Lenora and her team (read the full story on page 4,) praise Alyssa Day, Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, who led their support group (they took it twice!) and our staff with visual impairments, who serve as role models, like Eric Barrette, Teacher of the Visually Impaired and La Shonda McDonald, Certified Vision Rehabilitation Teacher.

I hear so many LHOB clients and receive kudos for our ability to restore our clients keyboarding skills fast. ALL of the LHOB instructors convey unshakeable conviction. We believe confidence built through a succession of small successes capacities to engage completely in school, work, family and community life.

Stories of confidence are all over this newsletter. Lenora has gone on to coach and empower many fellow Lighthouse graduates like Avalon Conley, a Registered Nurse, who lost his job when he woke up one morning totally blind. Sheniqua Miller and Colleen Campbell now have degrees in Psychology from NSU. Ansel Davis, the office for Florida State Representative Matthew Meadows, and served on the Florida State Rehabilitation Council credits the Lighthouse and Lenora for helping him.

The Lighthouse is an incubator, a resource and network for making connections that bring quality. As Avalon put it so well, I was lost before I found this place. The Lighthouse is a

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UPCOMING

Tuesday Feb 9 BFF Social Group Fundraiser 12-2:30 p.m. Call Sharon Meikle at 954-421-8828 for more details.

Saturday, Feb 13. Interfaith Group Friendship, Dating & Romance with Dr. Francesca Marinari & Dolores Hanley McDiarmid 10:30am-2:30p.m. RSVP 954-463-4217 ext. 135.

Thursday, Feb. 18 Alumni Association Fundraiser at meeting that day.

Friday, Feb 26 Book Club 10am-Noon. The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin. Contact Ellen Meyers, chimeyers@yahoo.com

Friday, Feb. 26 Braille Challenge for Kids and Teens. Contact Sam Kelly at 954-463-4217, ext. 118

Most Thursdays Exercise and Healthy Choices with Bill. 10:00a.m.-Noon. RSVP by calling Dolores at 954-463-4217 ext.135

Most Tuesdays Blinded Veterans Assoc 9:59am-11:30am - Call Scott at 954-326-1706 and the BFF Social Group 1:00 pm-2:30 pm. Call 954-463-4217 for info.

The Lighthouse offers YOGA, Trivia Club and Movies (just to name a few). Call ext. 143 to hear a line up of all the events.