

YOU are EMPOWERING the BLIND

FOCB, Florida Outreach Center for the Blind, Inc.

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Dear Friends of FOCB,

Thank you for empowering the blind and visually impaired in Palm Beach County. Your grants and donations have launched the new **Synergy Workshops**, supported the **Kids' Club**, and allowed more clients to travel safely with **mobility and orientation training** this year. Your support has bolstered the Senior program and provided **transportation** for clients to attend the Center's program who would be unable to afford the cost otherwise. We thank you for your continued support and invite you to visit our facility, meet our staff, and see firsthand the awesome impact you are having on the blind and visually impaired community.

YOUR GRANTS AND DONATIONS FUND:

CLIENT TRAINING in the following areas:

- ✚ Independent Living Skills
- ✚ Computers, Assistive Technology & Smartphones
- ✚ Orientation and Mobility
- ✚ Braille

CLIENT PROGRAMS and SUPPORT through the:

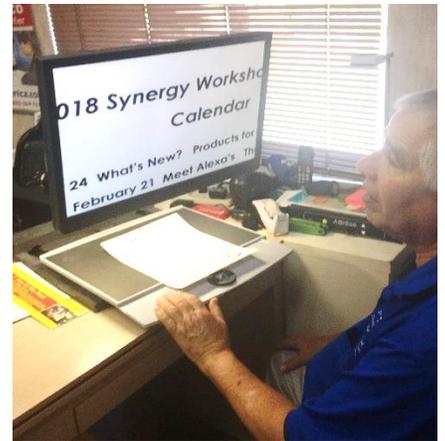
- ✚ Kids' Club
- ✚ Senior Outreach Program
- ✚ Hearing and Vision Impaired Advisory Group
- ✚ Peer Support Group

CLIENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ✚ Field Trips to the NFB Convention in Orlando & Transportation Disadvantage Day in Tallahassee
- ✚ White Cane Awareness Day
- ✚ Kids' Club and Client Holiday Parties
- ✚ Hearing and Vision Loss Symposium
- ✚ Social activities such as descriptive movies and Bingo Presentations and attendance at local health fairs



You're bringing Christmas cheer to blind children and their families



You're introducing visual aids to clients that maximize the use of their residual vision



You're providing instruction on using a white cane, navigating stairs and steps safely and using public transit.

EMPOWERING BROOKE



Brooke was born with Type 2 Usher Syndrome which results in both vision and hearing loss. Brooke has been hard of hearing her entire life and as an adult is now legally blind. Throughout her life, she has been an advocate for others, navigating children family services to keep her siblings together at a young age and supporting equality and social integration in religious organizations. At FOCB, Brooke has received training in three core areas: 1) orientation and mobility, 2) independent living and 3) technology. Brooke stated that orientation training has given her a new self-confidence. It has changed the way she thinks about herself. She is far more confident shopping and taking the Palm Tran bus by herself.

Technology training has helped her master the accessibility features that allow her and other blind individuals to use a smart phone and a tablet. Brooke continues to advocate for others today as she has been instrumental in developing the Hearing and Vision Impaired Support Group and its annual symposium. At FOCB, Brooke now serves as a member of the board of directors. Brooke will continue to be a strong voice in the Deaf Blind community with the skills and training that you have empowered her with through your generous support.



Mark your Calendar, *Dining in the Dark*, Sunday, November 4, 2018

Dining in the Dark is FOCB's signature fundraiser. The community is given the opportunity to experience eating dinner in total darkness, simulating being blind for a meal. A reception, silent auction and entertainment begins the night, followed by the PBSO SWAT team seating guests for dinner in a blacked-out ballroom. During dinner, the key note speech is given and the entertainment continues. Following dinner, lights are up and the Dr. Thomas Hartig Award is presented, volunteers are recognized and raffle prizes are awarded. We invite you to join us November, 4, 2018, for this unique experience!