



# ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2006 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

LIGHTHOUSE OF PINELLAS

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## A MESSAGE FROM...



Janet Henderson  
*Chairman of the Board*



Daniel T. Mann  
*President/CEO*

Within the past year, the Lighthouse of Pinellas has been a symbol of hope for change and growth. We have added new programs, as well as expanded our presence throughout Pinellas County.

On September 26, 2007, the first annual Tea for Tots was held at the Largo Cultural Center to benefit the Lighthouse of Pinellas Children's Program. The event featured John and Mary K. Wilson as the Masters of Ceremony and Jennifer Rothschild as the keynote speaker. Jennifer provided a dynamic account of what it is like to experience vision loss as a child as well as the crucial roles played by her parents and agencies providing training and services for individuals who are visually impaired and blind. Katherine Cartier, whose son Kyle is a client in the Agency's children's program, attended and put into words the emotions of the day. "Jennifer spoke about her life with her mom and pulled something out of me that has been hidden for 10 years". Jennifer shared her story from the original diagnosis to successfully completing training that was designed to assist her transition from life at home to life at college, concluding with her full and satisfying life today as an author, a renowned speaker, a recording artist a wife and mother. The inaugural Tea for Tots raised over \$20,000 to benefit the Lighthouse of Pinellas Children's Program.

The Agency also participated in the 1st Annual Florida Vision Summit. This statewide summit has a mission to raise awareness of the incidence of vision loss and blindness and to provide a forum for discussion for the best means of prevention, eye care and services for those who already have vision loss. As a Summit participant, The Lighthouse of Pinellas is one of the 15 agencies in the state of Florida that receive support through the sales from the new license plate, "A State Of Vision". Sales from the new license plate generate monies for direct support services to Floridians statewide through a network of 15 local non-profit agencies which comprise the Florida Association of Agencies Serving the Blind (FAASB). The Lighthouse of Pinellas is a member of the FAASB network. That means that the sales generated by "A State of Vision" License plates in Pinellas County will help to support the programs and services right here at Lighthouse of Pinellas! This year when you renew your vehicle registration, please consider purchasing this new license plate.

We are also happy to report that in the Fiscal Year 2007 we received a new contract from the Division of Blind Services to implement a year round transition program for students between the ages of 14 and 22 with visual impairments, to help prepare them to successfully transition from school into the workplace or college. Lighthouse staff worked with teachers from the public schools and local DBS staff to design and implement this new program. Students learn the skills they need to successfully enter college or the work place as well as live independently. The contract includes the five-week Summer Transition Camp where the students receive additional training in career exploration, pre-vocational skills, and participate in a paid work experience. It has been exciting to observe the growth in skills and confidence of the students in the program. Recent graduate Jameela Nelson had some words of advice for future students. "The most important lesson I learned and am still working on is self-advocacy. If you don't advocate for yourself, no one will know exactly what you need. My advice for the other students is to keep a positive attitude and learn everything you can".

As you can see, there are big things happening within the walls of the Lighthouse of Pinellas, as well as outside in the community. We are looking forward to another exciting year of growth and change. Thank you for playing such a vital role in the growth and development of this agency!

  
Janet Henderson

  
Daniel T. Mann



LIGHTHOUSE OF PINELLAS

On September 26, 2007 the first annual Tea for Tots was held at the Largo Cultural Center to benefit the Lighthouse of Pinellas Children's Program. The event featured John and Mary K. Wilson as the Masters of Ceremony and Jennifer Rothschild as the keynote speaker.

Almost 200 attendees had an opportunity to learn about the early intervention services for infants and children who have vision loss and/or other

developmental delays available at the Lighthouse of Pinellas as well as how vital these services are for enhancing the opportunities for future success of these children. The keynote speaker, Jennifer Rothschild, provided a dynamic account of what it is like to experience vision loss as a child as well as the crucial roles played by her parents and agencies providing training and services for individuals who are visually impaired and blind. At the age of fifteen Jennifer was diagnosed with a rare, degenerative eye disease that would eventually steal her sight. Jennifer shared her story from the original diagnosis to successfully completing training at Lighthouse of Miami designed to assist her transition from life at home to life at college, concluding with her full and satisfying life today as an author, a renowned speaker, a recording artist, as well as a wife and mother. Jennifer's first book, "Lessons I Learned in the Dark: Steps To Walking By Faith, Not By Sight", was recommended on ABC's Good Morning America and in February 2007 she appeared on the Dr. Phil Show as supportive counsel for the parents of six year old triplets who are blind and deaf. To listen to an excerpt of Jennifer's presentation at Tea for Tots, please log on to [www.lighthouseofpinellas.org](http://www.lighthouseofpinellas.org).

The inaugural Tea for Tots raised over \$20,000 to benefit the Lighthouse of Pinellas Children's Program. We would especially like to thank our Toast Sponsor, Ron and Judy Petrini, and the following Table Sponsors for contributing to the success of this event: Mrs. Bobbi Wileman Adair, Bay Area Retina Consultants, Mr. & Mrs. Carroll W. Cheek, Judge & Mrs. Joseph Donahey, Mr. & Mrs. John Follo, Mrs. Pat Grubb, Mrs. Yvonne Gubner, Largo Lions Club, Lions Eye Institute Foundation, Mrs. Lois Myers - In memory of Dr. Clarence D. Myer, Mr. & Mrs. George Ruppel, and Mr. & Mrs. James Villa.

We hope you will join next year for the 2nd Annual Tea for Tots on September 24, 2008. The keynote speaker will be Bobby E. Smith, Ph. D. who lost his vision in the line of duty as a law enforcement officer in Louisiana and who has written two books, *Visions of Courage*, *the Bobby Smith Story*, and *The Will to Survive*. (for more information about Dr. Smith, log on to [www.visionsofcourage.org](http://www.visionsofcourage.org)). Please call Stephanie Smith at (727) 544-4433, ext. 235 for more information about the 2nd Annual Tea for Tots.



*Toast Sponsors Ron & Judy Petrini and Jennifer Rothschild (center)*



*(L to R) Lisa Ethridge, Mary K. Wilson, Jennifer Rothschild, and John Wilson*

Our website is a wealth of information and resources.

[www.lighthouseofpinellas.org](http://www.lighthouseofpinellas.org)



## CLIENT STATISTICS & SERVICES

*Fiscal year  
October 1, 2006  
through  
September 30, 2007*

### Client Services

Children's Services (ages 0-5) . . . . .	731
Youth (ages 6-13) . . . . .	26
Vocational Rehabilitation . . . . .	63
Supported Employment . . . . .	9
Transition . . . . .	11
Independent Living . . . . . (adults & seniors)	248
Life Enrichment . . . . . (extended training for adults & seniors)	105
Non-Billable Clients . . . . .	75
Parents/Family Members . . . . .	220
Low Vision Patients . . . . .	203
 TOTAL . . . . .	 1,038

### Other Services

Transportation (10,224 trips) . . . . .	304
Product Store . . . . . (privately owned and operated)	1,743
Information and Referral . . . . .	3,000
Community Education /Outreach (estimated) . . . . .	6,320

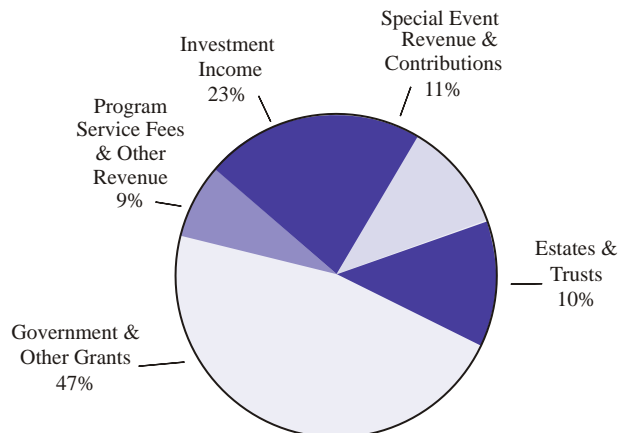
## Lighthouse of Pinellas, Inc., & Foundation Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current	537,384	668,066
Noncurrent	6,906,685	6,451,441
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 7,444,069</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,119,447</u></u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current	187,760	220,298
Noncurrent	516,820	609,937
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u><u>704,580</u></u>	<u><u>830,235</u></u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	4,206,375	3,485,673
Temp Restricted	170,054	511,509
Perm Restricted	2,363,060	2,292,030
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u><u>6,739,489</u></u>	<u><u>6,289,212</u></u>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 7,444,069</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,119,447</u></u>

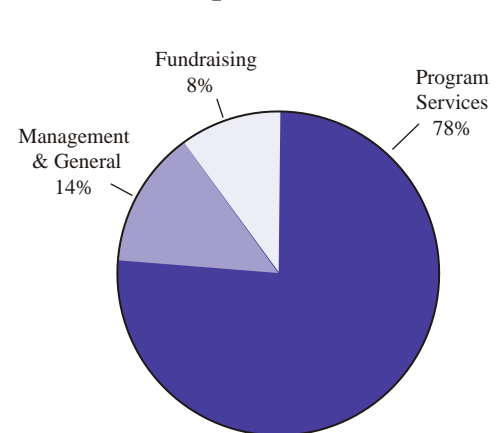
## PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE AND EXPENSES

<b>Revenue</b>				
Special Event Revenue & Contributions	257,031	11%	330,383	14%
Estates & Trusts	244,484	10%	644,284	27%
Government & Other Grants	1,141,672	47%	927,233	38%
Program Service Fees & Other Revenue	221,185	9%	230,189	9%
Investment Income	564,941	23%	279,199	12%
<b>Total Public Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<u><u>2,429,313</u></u>		<u><u>2,441,288</u></u>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program Services	1,538,170	78%	1,509,272	75%
Management & General	278,152	14%	302,188	15%
Fundraising	162,714	8%	210,956	10%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u><u>1,979,036</u></u>		<u><u>2,022,416</u></u>	
<b>Change In Net Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 450,277</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 388,872</u></u>	

**Revenue 2007**



**Expenses 2007**



# MISSION STATEMENT

*To advance the independence, opportunities, and quality of life for the more than 40,000 people in Pinellas County who are blind or visually impaired.*

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*October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2007*

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## BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

In March of 2007, Lighthouse of Pinellas participated as a charity recipient in the Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities community fundraiser associated with the PODS Tampa Bay Championship PGA Golf Tournament held on March 5th thru 11th, 2007. As a qualifying charity, Lighthouse of Pinellas received a percentage of the "Bonus Pool" funds for every paid pledge or donation made to the Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities on behalf of Lighthouse of Pinellas.

The proceeds are used as "seed money" for PODS Tampa Bay Championship Golf Tournament for initial expenses. After the tournament, the funds are paid in full PLUS a percentage of the Bonus Pool funds to the charity that was named in the original donation. The percentage of Bonus Pool funds received by a charity is directly related to the amount of paid pledge donations have been made on their behalf by the deadline. Additionally, donors had a chance to guess the number of birdies that would be made during this year's tournament. The individual who guessed correctly, or closest to the exact number, received a \$1,000 shopping spree at Sweet Bay Grocery Markets.

2007 was the first time the Lighthouse of Pinellas participated and on May 1st we received a check for \$10,913.50 from Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities. The 2008 PODS Tampa Bay Championship PGA Golf Tournament took place March 6-8 and The Lighthouse of Pinellas was registered again to participate in the Birdies for Tampa Bay Charities. For more information about making a tax deductible donation on behalf of Lighthouse of Pinellas in 2009, please call Stephanie Smith at (727) 544-4433, ext. 235.



Daniel T. Mann

President/ CEO

Melba Kert

Vice President

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Funded in part under

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and the State of Florida,

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*Lighthouse of  
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lpalmisano@  
lighthouseofpinellas.org*



The 3rd annual Lighthouse of Pinellas Tour of Kitchens was a sold out event! On Sunday, April 15th approximately 400 ticketed guests toured eight premier private home kitchens in the Snell Isle neighborhood of St. Petersburg.

We are so grateful for the warm way that the homeowners, chefs, and attendees embraced this first round appearance of the Tour in St. Petersburg. The 2007 Tour of Kitchens raised over \$50,000 to benefit the Lighthouse of Pinellas' programs and services.

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Leah & Glenn Bergoffen

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*The 2007 Lighthouse of Pinellas  
Committee members are:*

*(Back row in ascending order):  
Jeanie Renfrow, Doreen DiPolito,  
Karen Aungst, Bonnie Strickland,  
Jan Weaver, Janet Henderson,*

*Dorothy Shuman and Deborah Kelly.*

*(Front row in ascending order):  
Gayla Larson, Stephanie Smith,  
Cathy Dolan, Melissa Allen,  
Leah Bergoffen and Michelle Valk*

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