

2025 IMPACT REPORT



ABOUT US

IMPACT REPORT 2025



Mission

To advance the independence and quality of life for individuals in Pinellas County who are blind or visually impaired.

Vision

Every individual who is blind or visually impaired has the opportunity to achieve his or her fullest potential and to pursue his or her aspirations in all aspects of life.



Core Values

Dedication

Integrity

Opportunity

Community



YEAR IN REVIEW

Number of Clients Served



Number of Hours Provided



Total number of clients served:

361

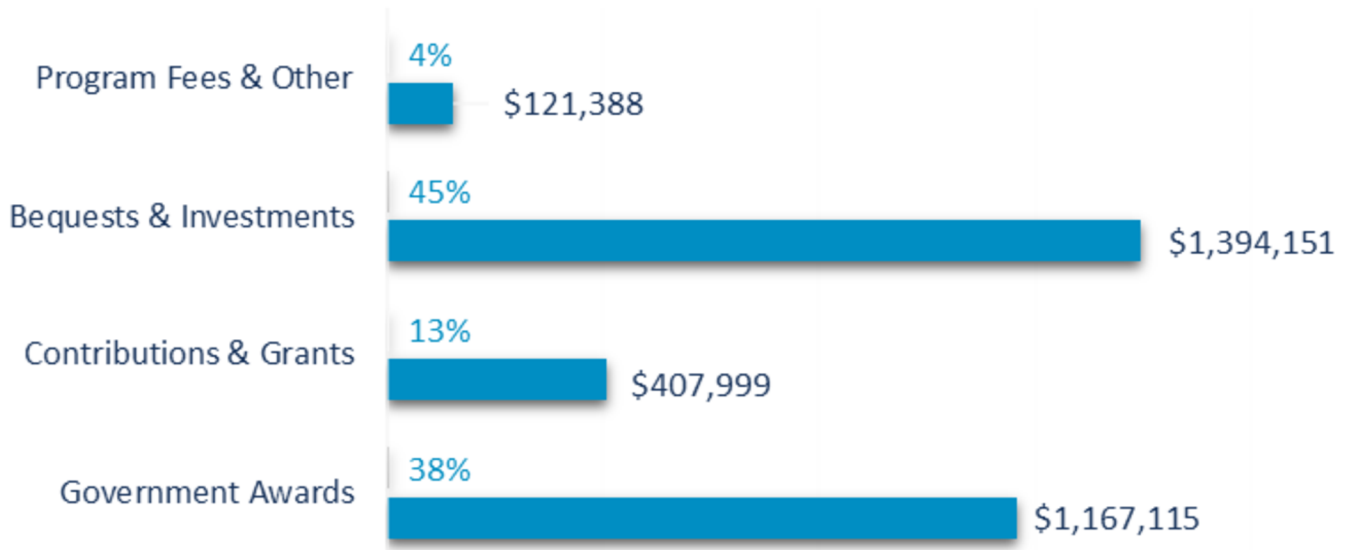
Total number of hours provided across all programs:

14,011

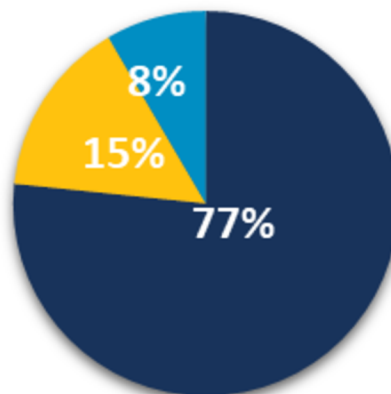


FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenues: \$3,090,653



Expenses: \$2,455,958



Program Services \$1,882,243
 Management & General \$366,862
 Fundraising \$206,853



For the Blind and Visually Impaired

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

Kandie's Story

Kandie's story is one of strength, faith, and a fierce determination to reclaim independence. Originally from a small town in Illinois, Kandi moved to Florida in 1984 and dedicated nearly 40 years of her life to nursing in the greater Pinellas County area. But everything changed after she suffered a series of strokes, six in total, leaving her with significant vision loss and brain damage. The transition was devastating. Kandi found herself grieving the life she once knew, and loneliness began to take hold.

But Kandie is not one to give up.

With the encouragement of her support system and her deep-rooted faith, she chose to seek help. As a nurse, Kandie had once cared for a young boy who was visually impaired and attended Lighthouse of Pinellas' Early Intervention and Children's Programs. She remembered the positive impact Lighthouse had on that little boy's life and decided to reach out.

From the moment she walked through our doors, Kandie said she felt welcomed, supported, and understood. She worked closely with our Orientation & Mobility instructor, Karli, to help her navigate her community, work, and how to take public transportation. Kandie also dove into our technology programs, where she gained skills using ZoomText and screen magnification for her phone and computer. With the help from her instructor, Brad, Kandie created a notebook filled with step-by-step guides on navigating technology — a resource she still uses and updates to this day.

Over the last seven years as a client, Kandie has not only gained independence but also a loyal companion, her seeing eye dog, a black lab named Runner. Since her last stroke she has not been able to work, but is hoping to go back soon as she has enjoyed being an Activities Director for an agency that serves individuals with disabilities, using her story and her strength to uplift others.

Kandie wants others to know: "You don't have to walk through darkness alone."

Outside of her work and advocacy, Kandie loves holiday lights and scenic views. One of her favorite memories is visiting Lookout Mountain in Chattanooga, Tennessee at Christmastime, taking in the city lights from above. Her dream? A trip to Dollywood, a fitting destination, as she's proud to be related to Dolly Parton on her mother's side.





SIGNATURE EVENTS

DINING IN THE DARK

Lighthouse of Pinellas' first Dining in the Dark event offered guests a unique opportunity to experience dining without sight and hear firsthand how our programs change lives. The evening raised awareness, strengthened community connections, and highlighted the impact of our services for individuals of all ages living with vision loss.

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WHITE CANE WALK

More than 450 clients, families, supporters, volunteers, sponsors, and community partners joined us for our first White Cane Walk at Largo Central Park. The event exceeded its fundraising goal by 17% and strengthened community awareness and support for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

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For the Blind and Visually Impaired

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CONTACT US



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The impact we make every day is possible because of the generosity and commitment of our donors, volunteers, community partners, businesses, and foundations. Your support creates opportunities, fosters independence, and ensures our life-changing programs and services remain available at no cost to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Together, we are building a more inclusive community where people with vision loss can thrive. Thank you.

Every contribution, no matter the size, brings hope to those in need.



CONNECT WITH US



We See Things Differently

