

HORIZONS

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Making Connections at the Redefining Vision Luncheon

Our 2014 *Redefining Vision* Luncheon was one of our best events yet! Thank you to all our community supporters for joining us at The Westin on Wednesday, April 9th, and helping us raise over \$100,000 to benefit The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.'s annual Deaf-Blind Retreat!

Listen to audio and see more photos of the entire event at redefiningvision.org

Featured speaker Derrick Coleman, Jr. of the NFL Super Bowl Champion Seattle Seahawks

We were thrilled to have **Derrick Coleman Jr.**, fullback/running back for the NFL Super Bowl Champion Seattle Seahawks as our featured speaker. Derrick was personable, relaxed, and funny as he shared memories from his childhood and experiences as the first deaf offensive player in the NFL. He inspired us with his confidence and story of empowerment.



Rep. Cyrus Habib of the 48th Legislative District emceed the event

We also really enjoyed having Representative **Cyrus Habib** of the 48th Legislative District, Washington State House of Representatives emcee the event. Cyrus is a natural public speaker, and we loved when he challenged the audience to support the Lighthouse with an additional \$48 gift in honor of the Seahawks winning Super Bowl XLVIII and his representation of the 48th legislative district.

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Lighthouse employees Andrew Stauffer (left) and Peggy Martinez (right) kicked off the event with some wonderful music

JOBS. INDEPENDENCE. EMPOWERMENT.

Our Mission: To create and enhance opportunities for independence and self-sufficiency of people who are blind, Deaf-Blind, and blind with other disabilities.



Guests at the Luncheon using the American Sign Language sign for "connection" during the program



Derrick Coleman, Jr. (left) meets with Luncheon guests at the VIP meet and greet prior to the event.



Representatives from Sterling Bank presenting President and CEO Kirk Adams (center) with a generous donation to the event



Employee speaker aj granda (center) speaking to the crowd at the Redefining Vision Luncheon

Our employee speaker **aj granda**, Deaf-Blind Education and Retreat Coordinator, shared the importance of making physical connections for Deaf-Blind individuals who are often isolated in their own rural communities. She explained the annual Deaf-Blind Retreat, which takes place in beautiful Seabeck, Washington each August, provides a one-of-a-kind experience with access to information and relationship building activities in a fully accessible environment. She thanked the incredible volunteers and community members who make the Retreat possible and reminded us all to find new ways of communicating and connecting with one another.

It truly was a fantastic event, and we are so grateful for your ongoing support! A special thank you to our event volunteers, table captains, Luncheon Committee members, and sponsors!

Thank You to our Generous Redefining Vision Luncheon Sponsors

- The Muckleshoot Charitable Foundation
- Badgley Phelps Investment Managers
- Alliant Benefits
- Kibble and Prentice
- Northern Trust
- Pepsi Bottling Company
- The BoxMaker, Inc.
- US Bank Commercial Banking
- Amber Janitorial
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About the Annual Deaf-Blind Retreat

Charitable donations from the *Redefining Vision* Luncheon helped support the Deaf-Blind Retreat, which creates opportunities for networking, connection, leadership and empowerment in a fully-accessible environment. Each year between 60 and 95 participants who are Deaf-Blind and 120 to 150 volunteer interpreter/guides gather in beautiful Seabeck, WA from all across the country and around the world to participate in a variety of recreational and educational activities.

The Retreat offers an accessible, supportive, and respectful environment that allows individuals to learn and experience many new activities such as tandem biking, boating, swimming, hiking, cooking and exercise classes, cultural presentations, workshops on new research, and demonstrations of the latest technology.

If you were unable to attend but would still like to support our mission, you can make a gift online at thelighthousefortheblindinc.org.



Message from President & CEO Kirk Adams

Successful community outreach through special events like the *Redefining Vision* Luncheon and Inland Northwest Lighthouse (INL) Expansion Fiesta serve our mission-related goals, but there is much to report in regards to our businesses and our support of employees. In each issue of *Horizons*, I share with you an update about the Lighthouse's progress in our Strategic Initiatives – with the

ultimate goal under our Strategic Plan of creating and sustaining 500 livable wage jobs.

Within the strategy of **Building Core Manufacturing Capabilities**, we have been adding more job capacity to hire more people who are blind. Currently, a group of people receive additional training through National Industries for the Blind during half their work week with the goal to grow our blind labor force by 2-3%. The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. continues to participate in the next generation of aerospace manufacturing and has expanded lean activities to include the assembly area here at Seattle and the production area in Spokane. We're exploring the possibility of adding high temperature plastic injection molding, which would also further broaden our product line.

We also have great news to report on in the area of **Developing Service Businesses**. We've expanded our Contract Management in San Diego for the Defense Contract Management Agency and added another office in Honolulu, Hawaii for the Defence Logistics Agency (DLA). We're also aggressively pursuing the creation of additional Base Supply Centers and held a grand opening celebration for our Ft. Irwin store on May 15th.

We're also happy to see growth in another area of our service business, our **Contact Center**. In recent months, the Contact Center has completed work performing donor calls for The Children's Museum and The Association of Washington Business.

Save the Dates for our Summer Events!

Saturday, July 26th - *Redefining Vision: In Bloom*

Enjoy a hands-on, guided tour of the Seattle Lighthouse's Ethel L. Dupar's Fragrant Garden followed by refreshments and socializing in a beautiful outdoor setting!

Thursday, August 7th - Seattle Lighthouse Summer Event

Join us for this summer evening event filled with fun, friends, food, and more! Mark your calendars now and watch for more details to come!

Wednesday, August 20th – Inland Northwest Lighthouse Jobs and Java

Come for breakfast and learn about the increased job opportunities we've created with the expansion of our Spokane facility.

For more details about these and other Lighthouse events please contact Andrea Travis, Events and Annual Fund Coordinator, at 206-436-2253 or via email at atravis@seattlelighthouse.org. You can also sign up for our email list by visiting www.thelighthousefortheblindinc.org.

In addition to these new customers, we continue to serve our existing customers like Fresh Revenues and The Catering Company. Because our employees have historically provided outstanding service for all our customers, we're excited about expanding this skill set to serve more partners. We're also talking to other blindness-related organizations on the West Coast about future partnerships, service business initiatives, and creating more jobs nationally.

Under our **Physical and Geographic Expansion** initiative, the current focus of our Board of Trustees ad hoc committee continues to be Spokane. With the completed expansion adding 42,000 square feet to our existing space, our office product line being produced at INL continues to grow. We are judiciously examining our options and making sure that expansion can be sustained. Our long-term goal is to add 40 jobs for individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

Our next initiative is to **Expand Accommodations and Training Opportunities**. Training spaces are being added to the new INL building including a dog kennel and relief area. We also added two staff positions, one in our Technology Training Center for employees who are Deaf-Blind, and one in the Computer Training Program for employees who are hearing and blind. Contractor Jellicia Nuccio is also teaching braille to employees who are Deaf-Blind.

The final strategic initiative to **Expand the Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind Foundation** is highlighted well in the article on this year's *Redefining Vision* Luncheon. This year we had record attendance, and we raised over \$103,000 in community support. Thank you to all those who attended, sponsored, and volunteered to help make this event a huge success.

In order to support all of our strategic initiatives and to meet our goal of increasing the number of employment opportunities, it takes a vibrant partnership between our business partners and our community supporters. Thank you for your support of The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. We're honored by your involvement and thank you for what your investment makes possible.

Sincerely,

Kirk Adams
President & CEO

Thanks for Celebrating INL's Expansion Grand Opening Fiesta!



Listen to audio and see more photos of the entire event at www.inlandlh.org

Pictured above: President and CEO Kirk Adams cuts the ceremonial ribbon at INL Expansion Fiesta

Thank you to those who supported the **Inland Northwest Lighthouse (INL) Expansion Fiesta**. Over 200 people from across the state of Washington gathered at our Addison Street location to celebrate the official grand opening of our newly expanded facility and increased jobs for people who are blind in Spokane.

The fiesta included a bounce castle and pony rides for kids, a mechanical bull, piñatas, braille raffle, tours of our new building, a taco truck, and a beer and margarita garden. The event program featured a ribbon cutting ceremony,

along with remarks by Lighthouse President and CEO **Kirk Adams**. We also heard from INL employee **Steve Smith**, and INL Advisory Council member **Jeremy Lewis**, followed by a special ceremony to honor Board of Trustee Emeritus **Bruce Walker** and **Don Mollet** for each providing 30 years of outstanding service to the Lighthouse.

A lot of fun was had by all who attended. The fiesta raised over \$15,000 in support of the facility expansion, which added 42 thousand square feet of manufacturing and warehouse space and allowed us to launch a new line of wallboards. As a

result, INL will employ up to 100 people who are blind over the next five years.

The new building also includes several amenities for employees such as a spacious break room, new lockers, and a secure, climate-controlled kennel and relief area that can house 13 guide dogs used by INL employees for safe travel to and from work.

The success of the INL Expansion Fiesta would not have been possible without the strong support of the Spokane community, our dedicated event volunteers, and our generous sponsors.

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Treat your Senses!

Come join us for a hands-on guided tour of **Ethel L Dupar's Fragrant Garden**. Enjoy the tapestry of aromas and textures designed to be a stirring sensory experience for people who are blind and Deaf-Blind. Garden tours are led by King County Master Gardener **Helen Weber**, who shares her knowledge, stories, and experience about this fascinating sensory installation and the many remarkable plants within.

Garden Tour Dates:

- Saturday, July 12th, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, July 26th, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, August 2nd, 11:00 a.m.
- Saturday, August 16th 11:00 a.m.

With enough advance notice, we can also schedule private tour dates from June through September.

Be Our Guest

Our Contact Center Team would be pleased to schedule your group for a Lighthouse tour. Just call 206-436-2127, or email contactcenter@seattlelh.org with at least three weeks advance notice.

Upcoming Seattle Lighthouse Tour Dates

June

Tuesday	6/3	1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday	6/4	10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Thursday	6/5	10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Tuesday	6/17	1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday	6/18	10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Thursday	6/19	10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

July

Tuesday	7/1	1:00-2:30 p.m.
Wednesday	7/2	10:00-11:30 a.m.
Thursday	7/3	10:00-11:30 a.m.
Tuesday	7/15	1:00-2:30 p.m.
Wednesday	7/16	10:00-11:30 a.m.
Thursday	7/17	10:00-11:30 a.m.

[INL Expansion Fiesta, (cont.)]

We would also like to thank the members of the INL Advisory Council and Fiesta planning committee for their time and commitment to our mission.

Thank you again for everyone who came out to enjoy the INL Expansion Fiesta. Through your support INL will continue to create and enhance opportunities for independence and self-sufficiency for people who are blind, Deaf-Blind, and blind with other disabilities here in Spokane!

If you were unable to attend, but would like to give the gift of jobs, empowerment, and independence, please contact Shawn Dobbs at 509-487-0405 or visit www.inlandlh.org.

**Thank you to our generous
INL Expansion Fiesta sponsors:**

- Acco
- Marshall Tool and Supply
- Kalispell Tribe – Northern Quest Resort and Casino
- The Community Building Foundation
- Novation Racing
- USWP Manufacturing
- De Leon Foods
- Haskins Steel

In-kind sponsors:

- Ninkasi Brewing Co.
- All-Star Jump



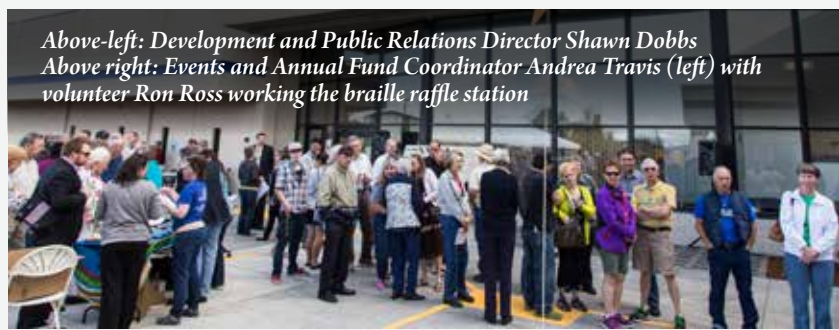
INL Production Worker Steve Smith



Don Mollet, Board of Trustees



*Above-left: Development and Public Relations Director Shawn Dobbs
Above right: Events and Annual Fund Coordinator Andrea Travis (left) with
volunteer Ron Ross working the braille raffle station*



A Message from Foundation Board Member George Kraft



George Kraft

My history with The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc. began in 1989 as a sales representative for The BoxMaker, Inc. My goal was to begin a long-term relationship and I'm happy to say we are going on our 25th year together.

During this time, I have met and interacted with many employees from the shipping room to the President and CEO. Many have become my friends. I am continually impressed that every day the employees, who are blind, Deaf-Blind, and blind with other disabilities, manufacture

with visual disabilities to live self-sufficient lives. Their camaraderie is evident whenever I have the pleasure of being in their work areas.

When the opportunity to become a member of Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind Foundation's Board came up, I raised my hand. I am in my second year. I enjoy working with my fellow board members to encourage others to support the mission of the Lighthouse. One of the best ways to develop that interest is to take people on a tour to see first-hand the Lighthouse employees in action.

I would be glad to take you on a tour. Just call me at 206-499-0529, and we will arrange it. Thanks for listening and supporting our mission.

George Kraft

Board Member

Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind Foundation

products ranging from canteens, easels, entrenching tools, hydration packs, wallboards, file folders, and replacement parts for commercial aircraft. They perform this work from the training provided by the Lighthouse. This allows over 240 employees



The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.
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**Thank you for supporting the
Redefining Vision Luncheon!**