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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXPANDED CONTRACT WITH STATE AGENCY MEANS MORE JOBS FOR CONTACT CENTER EMPLOYEES WHO ARE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

ORLANDO, FL. (August 6, 2018)—Building on a successful pilot program with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), Lighthouse Works recently announced the expansion of a contract to provide contact center services for reemployment assistance with the state agency.

Orlando-based social enterprise company and NIB-affiliate, Lighthouse Works, has been the sub-contractor on the agreement since last summer and its 4Sight360 contact center has been responsible for handling a portion of the in-bound calls to DEO's Reemployment Assistance Service Center.

The expanded multi-year contract doubles the number of full time employee (FTE) seats from 10 to 20 and took effect last month.

"It's been fantastic to showcase the unique abilities of our workforce," said Kaleb Stunkard, vice president & Chief Information/Operation Officer. "DEO has been an excellent partner and we're thrilled to have a multi-year service contract of this magnitude to help empower lives beyond the restrictions of vision loss and blindness."

According to DEO's website, unemployment assistance was rebranded with the name Reemployment Assistance to reflect the agency's comprehensive goal of helping Floridians find work during periods of unemployment by connecting jobseekers with available workforce training through Florida's CareerSource centers.

Read the original press release announcing this partnership:

<https://LighthouseCFL.org/Press> --

June 26, 2017 - RESPECT of Florida & Lighthouse Works Team-Up with Florida Department of Economic Opportunity



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ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE WORKS

Lighthouse Works is a social enterprise non-profit, which means its businesses exist to forward and fund our mission of living, learning and earning with vision loss. Through our wide range of businesses, we provide job training, employment and career opportunities to help advance people who are visually impaired. Lighthouse Works operates as a subsidiary of Lighthouse Central Florida—Central Florida's only private, non-profit agency offering a comprehensive range of services to people living with sight impairment in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. Established in 1976, Lighthouse Works has served generations of Floridians with comprehensive vision rehabilitation and employment services. Lighthouse Works is affiliated with the National Industries for the Blind, the nation's largest employment resource for people who are blind.

Additionally, Lighthouse Works operates in partnership with the AbilityOne Program to secure quality products and services to the federal government at fair market prices. To learn more, please visit www.lighthouseworks.org.



ABOUT RESPECT OF FLORIDA

RESPECT of Florida is a priority purchasing program created by the Florida legislature to provide job opportunities to Floridians who are blind or have other severe disabilities. RESPECT works with more than 50 non-profit agencies around the state that employ about 1,200 people with disabilities who produce hundreds of commodities and provide services to local and state government entities. For more information about the RESPECT of Florida program, visit www.respectofflorida.org.

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