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photo cutline: (I to r) Jenna Auckland, Marketing Director for Sunshine Cleaning Systems; Sandy Lozano Barry, Executive Director of Light of the World Clinic; Elaine Vasquez, widow of the Clinic's Founder; Stephanie Seltzer, United Way Manager of Public Relations; and Derek Auckland, Sunshine Florida Operations Manager. Photo credit: Villota Photography

# Sunshine Cleaning Systems and United Way Broward County Team Up to Provide Charities Free Disinfecting and Cleaning Services

(South Florida) – United Way of Broward County and Oakland Park-based Sunshine Cleaning Systems, a woman-owned regional janitorial services company celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary, announced today a new community giving program to provide qualified non-profit organizations with free disinfecting services for their facilities. The program, called *Shine with a Purpose*, kicked-off on August 2 with the disinfecting and cleaning of the Light of the World, a Broward County clinic that offers free medical care to uninsured individuals.

In mid-August, just in time for the opening of the new Jack and Jill Center Madeline Halmos Academy, Sunshine will make sure all new classrooms are thoroughly disinfected before school starts. The Center now provides education and other services to children, ages six weeks through fifth grade.

Sunshine is donating janitorial services, including its signature, Hygienic Clean™, a treatment that disinfects, sanitizes and deodorizes high touch areas and surfaces and is 99.999 percent





effective against a variety of bacteria and viruses, including MRSA/COVID-19, E coli, H1N1, Norovirus, Salmonella, Hepatitis A, B, and C, Staph and many more.

"We are thrilled to launch our 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration with this important community project," said President and CEO Laura Coenen. "We look forward to helping numerous local charities through *Shine with a Purpose* so they may have brighter days knowing their facilities are germ free and clean for the people they serve."

As part of its anniversary celebration, Sunshine can count more than 200 commercial and residential customers that have been loyal to the company for 10 years or more, including many that have been customers since the company was founded. For example, Sunshine has served the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport for 35 years, as well as the famed Sea Watch restaurant and the SunTrust (now Truist) branch in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea since the 1980's.

"This gift from Sunshine is greatly appreciated and well-timed as we work to open our new and safe elementary school – the Madelaine Halmos Academy. We will have 240 students when we are fully enrolled," said Heather Siskind, the organization's Chief Executive Officer.

Sandy Lozano Barry, Executive Director of the Light of the World Clinic, echoes the appreciation by stating, "We work hard every day to ensure our facilities are germ-free for our patients. This invaluable gift is a welcome contribution to our cleaning efforts. We appreciate Sunshine's professional support."

"We are excited to partner with Sunshine Cleaning Systems on their new initiative (*Shine with a Purpose*) to ensure our community stays safe and healthy. Providing charities with free disinfecting services for their facilities is a win-win for all involved," said Kathleen Cannon, President/CEO of United Way of Broward County.

Shine with a Purpose will continue as an on-going part of Sunshine's dedication to giving back to the communities where their employees and customers live and work.

For more information, visit www.sunclean.com or call 954-772-0884.





# **About United Way Broward County**

United Way of Broward County is a volunteer driven, community-based, non-profit organization servicing Broward County for more than 80 years. United Way of Broward County fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community. United Way of Broward County is the catalyst for change and convener of partnerships that unite the hearts, minds, and resources within the Broward community. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.UnitedWayBroward.org">www.UnitedWayBroward.org</a>.

#### About Light of the World Clinic

Founded in 1989, by Erwin M. Vasquez, MD, the free medical facility provides care to more than 12,000 people a year who otherwise would not be able to receive health care. Although Dr. Vasquez passed in 2010, his widow, Elaine Vasquez, remains a dedicated volunteer and board member, supporting the staff that maintains one of the only free health clinics in Broward County.

## About Jack and Jill Center

Jack & Jill Center's mission is to strengthen children and families through innovative education, supportive programming, and community engagement. It achieves its mission by focusing on both the children and family units as a whole, so that the entire household, children and parents alike, are able to reach their full potential. For over 79 years, Jack & Jill Center has served more than 20,000 children and families in South Florida. It currently serves as a NAEYC-accredited year-round early learning program for children aged 6 weeks though preschool, as well as an elementary school — with a brand-new elementary facility, The Madelaine Halmos Academy, housing kindergarten through fifth grade. For more information about Jack & Jill visit www.jackandjillcenter.org

## **About Sunshine Cleaning Systems**

Sunshine Cleaning Systems was established in 1976 by Larry Calufetti, who started the company as a window cleaning company in Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Florida. It quickly expanded to include a wide range of other commercial janitorial services to customers throughout the Southeast region.

Among its signature offerings are full scope janitorial services, *Hygienic Clean* disinfecting solutions, terrazzo floor care, carpet care, window cleaning, pressure cleaning, escalator cleaning, as well as parking lot and roadway sweeping. The company earned with honors the *Clean Industry Management Standards for Green Building Criteria (CIMS-GB)*, which is awarded by the cleaning industry's global trade association, <u>ISSA</u>. Certified by an independent accredited assessor, this certification indicates that Sunshine has "successfully demonstrated a commitment to the delivery of environmentally preferable services." In addition, the company earned the GBAC STAR Accreditation for its own headquarters campus. The designation is for facilities that meet strict cleaning and disinfection procedures for handling infectious disease





outbreaks, including coronavirus strains such as COVID-19. Sunshine was one of the first janitorial firms in the United States to receive the designation.

Sunshine has served the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport for the past 35 years and also provides disinfecting services for the TSA and janitorial services for the Car Rental

Center at the airport. Other janitorial clients include the Broward County Main Library and Government Center in downtown Fort Lauderdale, Broward College, as well as K-12 schools, restaurants, retailers, offices, athletic facilities and other international airports across the region. Sunshine's growing municipalities division includes such clients as Manatee County, and the Cities of Coral Springs, Coconut Creek, Delray Beach, Pompano Beach, Tamarac and West Palm Beach. The company also offers window cleaning and pressure cleaning services to residential properties.

In addition to the Fort Lauderdale headquarters, the privately held and woman-owned company, has branch offices throughout Florida in West Palm Beach, Tampa and Sarasota; as well as in Charlotte, North Carolina.