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Brevard Achievement Center Spotlights Newest Program with 2nd Annual "Dinner in the Dark" Event

Rockledge, Fla. – <u>Brevard Achievement Center</u> (BAC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides innovative services and opportunities to assist people with disabilities achieve personal success, is hosting its 2nd annual "Dinner in the Dark" event on Saturday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the King Center's Studio Theatre. The event is presented by Southern Janitor and Fred and Jeanette Pitten.

Those who attend BAC's "Dinner in the Dark" will get a dining experience like never before. That's because guests will be asked to wear blindfolds to remove any sense of sight before being served dinner prepared by the Green Turtle Market. With their other senses heightened, guests will get a taste of what it's like to have a visual impairment.

"We initiated this event in Brevard County last year and it was a tremendous success," said BAC President and CEO, Amar Patel. "It not only makes for a really entertaining evening, but the event's core concept taps into our mission, too."

In addition to enjoying a different type of dining experience, guests will be entertained by James Williams, a 19 year old self-taught pianist with autism and winner of the 2016 Very Special Arts Florida Young Soloist award. There also will be a silent auction featuring unique trips, baskets and art from Cogswell Street Studio, BAC's art program for adults with disabilities.

Proceeds from the event support BAC's newest program, the Industry Readiness Training (IRT) program, which gives individuals with disabilities an opportunity to obtain and sustain employment at the highest level achievable. The IRT offers participants structured in-house skills training in highly marketable industries like hospitality, food service and manufacturing. To ensure that IRT participants are sufficiently prepared for the job market, an Industry Advisory Council comprised of local business leaders is a key element of the program.

Sponsorships ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 are available with individual reservations priced at \$100 per person or \$175 per couple. Visit <u>bacbrevard.com/bacevents</u> for more information or contact Roz Weiss, BAC's director of marketing and development, at (321) 632-8610, ext. 203 or <u>rweiss@bacbrevard.com</u>.