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**Subject:** Continuing the Dream: A Campaign to Honor Carl Augusto

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## **AFB** American Foundation for the Blind

Expanding possibilities for people with vision loss

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Dear Friend,

As you may already know, Carl Augusto, President and CEO of the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) has announced his retirement. Carl's successful 25-year tenure will come to an end next spring and we are extremely proud to co-chair his **Continuing the Dream Campaign**. This campaign is designed to honor Carl and all that he has accomplished at AFB by financially supporting the organization he loves. AFB will build upon Carl's hard work and dedication, and continue making this world a better and more accessible place for people who are visually impaired.

In 1991, when Carl took the helm at AFB, his goal was to keep the organization a leader in the blindness field well into the 21st Century. Carl worked to make AFB the organization that it is today—one that touches more lives than any other serving people with vision loss. We hope you will take a few moments to read about Carl's many accomplishments.

While at the Cincinnati Association for the Blind, Carl always dreamed about working for AFB, the organization that he would call on a regular basis for any information he needed. In 1991, his dream job of being the President and CEO of AFB came true. He said then and still says now, he loves coming to work every day.

As we know, all good things must come to an end and so in the spring of 2016, Carl will step down. When asked what he will miss the most, Carl says it is the people he works with and the people that AFB touches.

When looking towards the future, Carl knows that AFB will continue to recognize the needs of everyone who is blind or visually impaired. It is imperative that people with vision loss continue to receive the support provided by AFB. A strong, vibrant AFB will be the affirmation of his legacy, as we provide the tools and education people who are visually impaired must have to compete on the same level as those with their sighted peers.

It is our hope that you will join us and make a donation to Continuing the Dream and send your congratulations to Carl on this monumental occasion. **To contribute online, please go to [www.afb.org/carlscampaign](http://www.afb.org/carlscampaign)**, or you may contact Robin Vogel, Vice President, Resource Development, at (212) 502-7620 or Ilana Lewin, Individual Giving Officer, at (212) 502-7627.

We thank you for the part you've played in Carl's wonderful career and look forward to your continuing partnership with AFB.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Weidle  
Campaign Co-Chair  
Member, AFB Board of Trustees

Kirk Adams  
Campaign Co-Chair  
Member, AFB Board of Trustees

## **“Continuing the Dream”**

### **A Campaign to Honor Carl Augusto**

Under Carl’s leadership, the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) has strengthened its leadership role within the blindness community, and forged numerous partnerships and alliances with organizations both in and outside the field. These have resulted in programmatic and financial synergies and innovative service delivery models.

The past 25 years have seen:

- An increase in AFB’s involvement with technology and accessibility issues — especially in the evaluation of devices and the development of apps
- Expansion of AFB’s influence on corporate America to make products and services accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired
- Organizations in the blindness field brought together towards greater collaboration and common goals
- The development of the use of the Internet for people who are blind or visually impaired
- AFB’s ability to compete for charitable dollars with other blindness organizations through the hiring of a professional fundraising staff and the creation of a Board development committee
- AFB becoming a leader in advocating for the distribution of braille, large print and electronic textbooks in all schools
- AFB advocate for better communications laws that affect millions of Americans who require TV programs and smartphones to be accessible
- AFB establish web-based programs to support three under-served populations with vision loss — children (**FamilyConnect**), those who work (**CareerConnect**), and the aging (**VisionAware**)

Carl is extremely proud of how AFB has adhered to its mission of excellence as a leader in the field and the way it has kept Helen Keller’s legacy alive. Please visit [www.afb.org/carlscampaign](http://www.afb.org/carlscampaign) to support our **Continuing the Dream Campaign**.

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