



# Blind Services Foundation of Florida, Inc.

## Enabling the Blind

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# Blind Man challenges Mt. Kilimanjaro



Photo by Jessica Watroba



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Kilimanjaro—even the name evokes images of that magnificent mountain rising out of the African Jungle to a snow-capped peak nearly 4 miles high. Mt Kilimanjaro is the tallest free-standing mountain in the world. Beginning with tropical rain forest and topped by arctic glaciers, it is mighty, imposing and challenging to those who dare to attempt climbing it. It has been called the most dangerous mountain in the world. More than 10 people each year lose their lives struggling to reach its lofty summit.

Now picture a totally blind man daring to answer Kilimanjaro's challenge. That is what Craig Kiser, a 63 year old blind man from Venice, Florida, will do in early September. Craig has 2 reasons for undertaking this adventure. He is doing it to raise money for the Blind Services Foundation of Florida and to raise awareness of the true nature of blindness— that it is public perceptions and misconceptions that are the greatest disability to the blind. "People assume that blind people are unable to live successful lives, based on the myths and misconceptions about the ability and competence of the blind", said Craig. " I want to demonstrate that the greatest disability of blindness is the limitations we impose on ourselves because of low expectations arising from past myths and misconceptions about blindness and the blind".

The Blind Services Foundation of Florida is a charitable organization created to help provide training and equipment for blind and visually impaired Floridians. It purchase specialized equipment such as talking computers, Braille watches and other technology which enable the blind to compete in the workplace and carry out household chores such as cooking, cleaning, ect.

Craig is seeking pledges of a penny for each foot of altitude he accomplishes in climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro. If Craig succeeds in reaching the summit at 19,000 feet, each pledge will be for \$190.00.

For further information or to make a pledge you can contact Craig at 850-345-9122 or email at [Sckiser55@earthlink.net](mailto:Sckiser55@earthlink.net).

A copy of the official registration (CH18568) and financial information may be obtained from the Florida Division of Consumer Services by Calling 1-800-435-7352 within the state of Florida. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.