Estella Mims Pyfrom's parents were migrant workers who harvested produce from Belle Glade, Florida to upstate New York. She started picking beans at the age of six. With little formal education themselves, Ms. Pyfrom’s parents always stressed the importance of education to their six daughters. Much of Ms. Pyfrom’s early education was acquired during the winter months in the Belle Glade public schools.

Overcoming the obstacles of the migrant worker’s life, Ms. Pyfrom attended Florida A&M University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree as well as a Masters’ degree in Elementary Education, Vocational Home Economics, and Administration and Supervision. She later earned her certification in Guidance Counseling from Florida Atlantic University.

For 50 years, Estella Mims Pyfrom worked for the Palm Beach County School System. She served as a K-12 classroom teacher, an adult education teacher, an area resource teacher, an auxiliary coach, a guidance counselor, and a summer school principal. Helping students who were culturally or economically challenged was her great passion.

After retirement, Ms. Pyfrom was not done with education—far from it. She immediately began working on a project to bridge the digital gap. Dipping into her retirement fund, she created “Estella’s Brilliant Bus.” Equipped with 17 computer stations with a high-speed Internet connection, Estella’s Brilliant Bus travels to schools, homeless shelters and community centers throughout Palm Beach County, serving everyone from preschoolers to high schools students to adults. Ms. Pyfrom, who acquired her computer skills at the age of 70, provides regular classes and tutoring sessions four days a week, assisted by volunteers.

Recognition was slow in coming for Ms. Pyfrom but it did come. She was named a National Point of Light and met President Barack Obama at the White House. She appeared on Oprah’s The Life You Want To Live Tour, and was named a CNN Top 10 Hero.

It is Ms. Pyfrom’s dream that there be a Brilliant Bus like hers in every county in the country.