5/20/22

Match Announced for White Cane Walk!

- White Cane Walk is two weeks away and a member of our Board of Trustees has generously pledged to make an additional $100 contribution for each of the next 100 donors or registrants to White Cane Walk, no matter the gift size!

Invite your friends and family to join you at the event and take advantage of this match offer by registering to walk ($20/walker) or making an individual donation at: www.whitecanewalk.org. Act fast – until we hit our goal, just two walker registrations will now bring in an additional $200!

We are excited to be together for a day filled with fun activities and the traditional one-mile walk from CSC to Wade Lagoon (near Severance Hall) and back. We hope to see you there to celebrate our agency, clients and your support as a staff member!

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to Megan Schaefer (x4568) with any questions, we are happy to work with you!

Please note the additional $100 contribution will not be counted towards specific fundraising teams.

See you on June 4!
Cleveland Sight Center to Host Vision Fair for Seniors:

-Spots are available for the upcoming vision fair for seniors on Thursday, June 16th at Cleveland Sight Center from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. CSC hosts the vision fair in partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) and presentation topics will include:

“The Aging Eye: Common Eye Conditions” presented by Annalisa Schloss, OD

“When Glasses Are Not Enough” presented by Erin St. Denis, OTR/L and Bryan Manthey, CVRT

“Don’t Get Tripped Up: Safety Tips and Avoiding Falls in Your Home” presented by Katie Lepis, CVRT

Program overviews of CSC and the OOD Independent Living Older Blind program will be given during this interactive morning which will also feature information tables, tours of the Eyedea Shop, raffles and snacks/beverages.

RSVPs can be sent to Tom Sawyer (Outreach Specialist) at 216-658-7339 or tsawyer@clevelandsightcenter.org.

Educating the Community:

-Katie Lepis (Vision Rehabilitation Therapist) presented to two groups of residents and family members at the Emerald Village senior living facility this week. This was the first in a series of four presentations to the groups discussing adaptive equipment, techniques, Cleveland Sight Center resources and programs, as well as strategies for coping with vision loss. Participants tested out adaptive equipment and held engaging conversations with each other about their own experiences with vision loss.

-Tom Sawyer (Outreach Specialist) gave two presentations to independent living and assisted living residents and staff members at Vitalia North Olmsted this week, highlighting CSC programs and services, upcoming CSC events and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Independent Living Older Blind (ILOB) and Group Independent Living programs. Tom will also be staffing a table to promote CSC programs, services and the upcoming Vision Fair for Seniors at an event this Saturday at Upper Edgewater Park for the Foundation Fighting Blindness.

In addition, as a CSC member representative of ADA Cleveland, Tom is part of their Events Committee that met this week for an onsite planning meeting on Public Square in preparation for an ADA Cleveland - Call to Action event being planned for a to-be-announced date in early fall. ADA Cleveland is a coalition of agencies and organizations from Greater Cleveland who share in the mission to provide greater access and opportunity for individuals with disabilities.
What’s Happening at Cleveland Sight Center:

-Students in preschool turned their classroom into an ice cream parlor this week! The children practiced their manners, ordered different flavors, filled order lists and counted while having lots of fun. On Wednesday the class took a field trip to the Mitchell’s Homemade Ice Cream Kitchen and Shop in Ohio City, where they were able to learn and see how ice cream is made…and enjoy some delicious treats! And last but not least, they made their own ice cream on Thursday afternoon. While it turned out more like a shake than ice cream, everyone loved it!

-As the Children & Young Adult Services department prepares for summer programs, they are excited to announce the theme for this summer is “At the Beach.” The teachers are looking for anything related to the beach or water. Some suggestions include fishing rods, swimming inner tubes or life jackets, a kayak, canoe or inflatable raft, and more! If you are interested in lending any items, the staff will return the items but please note they may not be in the same shape (so don’t lend out your best items…) For more information or to ask about items that may be needed, contact Melissa Kraus (Teacher of the Visually Impaired) at x8778 or mkraus@clevelandsightcenter.org.

-Recreation programs finished for the spring with a summer-themed party, aquatic crafts and more! Programming will return in the fall with a revamped schedule of events.

-The deadline for registration for Highbrook Lodge is May 31st, and the camp schedule may change based on enrollment! PLEASE refer potential campers to Gabriella at gdrago@clevelandsightcenter.org or x4598 ASAP so that we can assist them with the registration process. Leisure & Lifestyle Services humbly requests all hands-on-deck in passing on the word about camp to clients and campers!
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 3.4 million Americans aged 40 years and older are blind (having a visual acuity of 20/200 or less or a visual field on 20 degrees or less) or visually impaired (having a visual acuity of 20/40 or less). Other estimates of “vision problems” range as high as 21 million, and a total of 80 million Americans have potentially blinding eye diseases. The major causes of vision loss are cataracts, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma.

- The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) will host a mobile ticketing kickoff event to celebrate the launch of GCRTA on EZfare with Transit app on June 22, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Public Square in downtown Cleveland. For more information, click here.

- Did you know Armed Forces Day is Saturday, May 21st? This holiday pays tribute to the men and women who serve across all six branches in the United States military – Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy and Space Force. To read more about Armed Forces Day, click here.