3/13/20

A Message to All Clients and Friends of Cleveland Sight Center

The security and safety of staff, clients, students, friends and volunteers at Cleveland Sight Center continues to be our highest priority.

We find ourselves in a new world that is rapidly changing. As a result of the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) news and protocols from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the State of Ohio and Governor Mike DeWine’s Executive Order on Thursday, we have had to consider many different options and scenarios. These external factors are causing us to alter how we do business. While our mission to provide service to our clients, patients and customers continues, we must do so in ways that are efficient, effective and safe for them and for each of us.

Understanding that this is an extremely unique and evolving situation that may change, here is the plan to conduct Cleveland Sight Center business operations going forward:

- Effective at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16th, Cleveland Sight Center’s main building at 1909 Chester Avenue will be closed through Friday, March 20th; limited resources will be available by phone and electronically. We will evaluate the situation on Friday, March 20th and communicate via our website and social media whether we will reopen our facility on Monday, March 23rd.
• Individual services scheduled in the community will still be provided on a limited basis.
• Recreation (group) services have been suspended through the end of March; we will reassess this decision and resume all programming if deemed appropriate.
• Updates will be made as available via our website, social media pages and phone:
  • http://clevelandsightcenter.org/content/message-cleveland-sight-center
  • https://www.facebook.com/clevelandsightcenter/
  • 216-791-8118

If you have questions or concerns, please email us at info@clevelandsightcenter.org.

We wish everyone good health during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Larry Benders
President and Chief Executive Officer

What’s Happening at CSC

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool have had a great beginning to the month of March! They celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss on March 2nd and had a day filled with activities related to reading and the books of Dr. Seuss then had a field trip to a local library on March 5th. Their reading celebration will continue through the month of March with multiple visitors from the agency stopping by to read more great books!

- Friend of CSC Donald Taylor and his mother visited Bright Futures Preschool on Tuesday, March 3rd to read to the children and distribute gifts. Each student received a new backpack and a book after Donald read "The Little Old Lady That Swallowed a Fly" to the class. Thank you so much Donald for yet another wonderful visit and surprise!

Image of Friend of CSC Donald Taylor reading in the classroom
The new garage constructed in the north parking lot, which was paid for by capital funding obtained through the State of Ohio, is now functional with power and is in full service. The building stores various pieces of maintenance equipment, supplies and other materials for the Facilities department. A permit for demolition of the old garage has been secured by the contractor and work will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks. The contractor generously offered to demolish the old garage and haul away materials as a donation to CSC.

Image of new storage garage with the door open

Dr. Lidija Balcinunas of CSC’s Low Vision Clinic will present a “Lunch and Learn” for Cleveland Sight Center’s Board of Trustees and interested staff members on Tuesday, April 7th from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium. Dr. Balcinunas will present case studies which will demonstrate the process of low vision exams and discuss how the Low Vision Clinic networks with other Cleveland Sight Center departments and outside referral sources.

CSC will host a Senior Fair on Tuesday, April 28th from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The morning will feature three presentations including “The Aging Eye: Common Eye Conditions” presented by Dr. Annalisa Schloss, “When Glasses Are Not Enough” presented by Bryan Mantheye and Erin St. Denis and “Don’t Get Tripped Up: Safety Tips and Avoiding Falls in Your Home” presented by Taylor Volrich and Katie Lepis. Various departments and programs of the agency will be on hand with information and attendees will have the opportunity to visit the Eyedea Shop. For more information on the program, contact Susie Meles (x8747).

Educating and Impacting the Community

Tom Sawyer made medical office visits recently to distribute doctor referral packets and CSC information to staff at Retina Associates in Akron, Cleveland Eye Bedford, Cleveland Eye Cleveland, University Hospitals Bedford, University Hospitals Mayfield Heights, Hillcrest Hospital Mayfield Heights and Marymount Hospital Garfield Heights. He also met with staff of Brookdale in Copley Fairlawn to promote the upcoming Senior Fair.

The Deputy Director and 12 Case Managers from the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority visited CSC for an agency tour, talk on CSC programs/services, sighted guide experience and tasks under blindfold earlier this week.
- Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer represented CSC at Hathaway Brown School’s Poster Session and Information Night showcasing various student projects, including a 3D printing of the topography of Mars for a tactile project. Stay tuned for more - the 3D prints are being considered to be available as an activity station at June’s White Cane Walk. What a great opportunity for people with low vision or blindness as well as people who are sighted to experience the terrain of Mars!

**Now Hiring for Highbrook Lodge: Camp Nurse**

- Do you know any nurses who want an awesome summer job? Would they enjoy living in a Rustic Chic cabin, sipping lemonade by the pool, eating catered food, having someone else wash the dishes? If so, read on!

At Highbrook Lodge, our campers (aged 1-99), are individuals living with low vision or blindness. We believe that summer camps provide a unique environment that promotes lasting positive effects for the lives of our campers, including the space to make and maintain friendships; relax and play; develop further independence; be outdoors; and be unplugged. Programs and activities are designed to assist our campers in their vision rehabilitation process while providing a fun and safe outdoor environment.

The nurse will support the camp by providing nursing care to campers including routine daily care and emergency care. Daily care includes medication administration, routine nursing needs, diabetic care, seizure care, and supervision of dietary needs for campers (as required). Emergencies that arise may range from mildly acute to serious medical emergencies. Physician consultant available.

If your contact has any questions, please feel free to have them call Tina Pringpuangkeo (216-658-4534) in Human Resources or Camp Manager Jenny Schaeffer (216-658-4596). The application for the position can be found here: [http://bit.ly/33hHHwk](http://bit.ly/33hHHwk)

- Check out and pass along this link for all of CSC’s open positions....we’re hiring! Job Postings can be found here: [http://bit.ly/2KAHxs](http://bit.ly/2KAHxs)

**From the Eyedea Shop**

- The Eyedea Shop has many types of magnification products. Our newest is the Eschenbach Mobilux Digital HD Touch electronic magnifier. It is a portable device that is rechargeable and easy to carry with you for on the go use. Its magnification spans from 4X through 12X, has a touch screen to avoid all the confusing buttons and comes with the charging cord and a carry case. It is high definition as the name indicates and has a 4.3” screen.
It can be used flat on the page or tilted for a nice angle for reading. It offers several contrast color background options and can even take a screen shot using the image save feature for later reference. It has a 2.5-3 hour battery use per full charge and can be used with your computer to transfer images captured on the included SD card. Our price is $450.00. Stop in and see our newest product. We think you’ll be impressed!

*Image of Eschenbach magnifier illuminating and enlarging a section of a magazine article with the magnifier’s box in the background*

**Items of Note**

- Check out this article from WKYC Channel 3 on a Massillon high school student and friend of CSC, Cammie Gattuso, who was born blind, but her ability to read and write braille has taken her to many different cities to win national competitions. Click here for the feature: [http://bit.ly/2QdkrKR](http://bit.ly/2QdkrKR)

- The Cleveland Jewish News recently highlighted the work of Jack Fogel, who volunteers each year at CSC’s White Cane Walk. Check out more here: [http://bit.ly/2TEM7u5](http://bit.ly/2TEM7u5)

- Did you know spring 2020 officially begins at 11:49 p.m. on Thursday, March 19th?