Keeping you "in THE know.

Cleveland Sight Center

4/10/20

An Update from Cleveland Sight Center

Cleveland Sight Center continues to follow protocols from the CDC and the State of Ohio. CSC’s main office will continue to be closed through Friday, April 17, 2020.

CSC Applies for Support from Small Business Administration

Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Kevin Krencisz recently applied for a 1.4 million dollar Small Business Administration (SBA) loan that would fund about 8 weeks of payroll for Cleveland Sight Center. The loan was approved by the bank on Thursday and we hope it is approved quickly by SBA. As a bonus, the loan becomes forgivable if later in the year CSC proves the proceeds were used for payroll. This loan was made possible through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by the United States Congress last week. Thanks to Kevin, the Fiscal Management team and the Executive Committee of the Board for their quick action and response to this opportunity.
CSC Receives $10,000 Donation for Purchase of Assistive Technology Equipment

-CSC recently received a $10,000 donation to be used for remote services related to Assistive Technology and Training. With the gift, ten laptops have been ordered that will have ZoomText Fusion (screen magnification software), Talking Typer software (a typing and computer keyboard training program) and Microsoft Office 365, which will provide clients the opportunity to participate in training, practice at home and become proficient in their skills. Types of training available will include typing, internet browsing and searching, Microsoft Office, PowerPoint and Excel depending on each client’s goals. The equipment will be loaned to the client while participating in training and then returned once the training has been completed. Ultimately, these clients will gain the skills needed when looking for jobs.

Remote Services Continue to Make an Impact

-While the CSC main offices are currently closed to the public, we remain committed to serving our clients through remote and alternative service deliveries when possible. Please share 216-791-8118 or info@clevelandsightcenter.org with anyone in need of CSC services.

-Registration team members continue to make outbound calls and conducting various client surveys, testing the new version of ClientCare and assisting with entering various client case notes. The Registration team is also going to begin assisting with Paratransit applications getting completed. The team in Employment Services has begun working with clients and job seekers on how to best interview remotely during the job search process.

-Bright Futures Preschool continued classroom instruction and interaction through their Facebook group for students and their families which incorporates live morning circle, afternoon story time and afternoon music! Virtual instruction to students and early intervention services continue to be provided through the Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) team.

-Don’t forget the Eyedea Shop continues to do business online at www.eyedeashop.com or by phone at 216-658-4666. Staff members are able to process and fulfill orders, then mail the products to customers or bag up equipment for delivery by the Rehabilitation staff.

-CSC’s Call Center Customer Service Representatives have been extremely busy fielding calls for the Office of the Secretary of State of Ohio Frank LaRose, as Ohio’s Primary Election voting date is now Tuesday, April 28th. The team remains engaged provided necessary details to Ohio voters calling for information.

-The Development and Marketing teams spent time this week reaching out to various donors to say hello, check in, thank them for supporting the agency and provide updates on the remote service offerings being provided by CSC staff members.
CSC Volunteer Services continues to keep in contact with the agency’s volunteers through email communications and personal phone calls.

The Recreation Line (x4600) has been updated with new content this week! Clients and staff are encouraged to call 216-658-4600 to hear some mental health wellness tips and more! The Recreation Line will continue to be updated periodically with new content – so check it out and be sure to share the number with clients...and coming Monday will feature some updates from Highbrook Lodge!

Book Discussion Group is planning to gather via teleconference on Tuesday, April 14th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and will be talking about Contact by Carl Sagan. For more information on this program, contact Alicia Howerton (x4587).

Past campers at Highbrook Lodge – both adults and children – as well as CSC staff members are being invited to a virtual BONDfire being hosted by the camp team on Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 p.m. For more information on this special event, contact Jenny Schaeffer (x4596) or Vince Williams (x4597).

Items of Note

Originally scheduled for Saturday, June 6th at Cleveland Sight Center, this year’s White Cane Walk, CSC’s annual summer fundraising walk, has been postponed to Saturday, August 8th. More details to come on how you can participate (including virtual options!) will be announced soon!

The Facilities team took advantage of some nice weather this week to begin painting the wooden dumpster enclosure at the northeast end of the property to match the slate grey color of the new storage garage. Friend of CSC Platten Construction recently submitted the necessary paperwork and notifications with the State of Ohio for approval to tear down the old garage, with a goal of the project being completed by the end of the month. Platten Construction has generously agreed to donate their services to tear down and haul away the material from the old garage.

The “Resources” page on CSC’s website continues to add community resource links that may be helpful during COVID-19. Click here for more information.

Beginning Sunday, April 12th the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is reducing bus and rail service by approximately 15% in response to the COVID-19 crisis. Communities and destinations currently served by RTA will continue to have service, but it will be less frequent. The change comes as a result of a significant drop in ridership due to the Governor’s "Stay at Home" order related to the coronavirus. Park-N-Ride and Trolley service remain suspended, as previously announced. For a full list of service impacts, see RTA’s service update.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Monday, April 20th at 4:00 p.m.
The Lunch and Learn presentation by Dr. Lidija Balsiunas and CSC’s Low Vision Clinic scheduled for April 7th has been postponed. The Diabetes Wellness Series, Senior Fair (April 28th) and Volunteer Appreciation Week Activities and Dinner (April 30th) have also been postponed. Information about these events being re-scheduled, if possible, will be announced as future plans are solidified.

Did you know Americans consume an average of 281 eggs a year?