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 24, 2020.

CSC Receives Support from Small Business Administration

-Cleveland Sight Center was approved for and this week received the 1.4 million dollar Small Business Administration (SBA) loan, which was made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by the United States Congress a few weeks ago. This funding is so important in light of projected declining revenues and donations. CSC will continue to do all we can to remain operating in a prudent manner in these uncertain times. Thanks to Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Kevin Krecisz, who initiated this process, the Fiscal Management team and the Executive Committee of the Board for their quick action and response to this opportunity.
An Update from Highbrook Lodge

-We would like to update you on Highbrook Lodge’s summer 2020 contingency plan, given the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ohio.

COVID-19 may likely necessitate that we all continue to practice some measures of social distancing - in one form or another - throughout the summer. And while we are hopeful that the current Stay-at-Home order instituted by the state of Ohio will be lifted soon, we also understand that there may be risks associated with congregating in large groups, especially those people with vulnerable health conditions.

We are therefore modifying our summer schedule to be in a better position to provide a safe environment for campers and staff.

Like many other camps across Ohio, we will be pushing back our opening day. We have made this decision by looking to the leaders in our industry, like the American Camp Association, and by thoughtfully considering the needs of our campers, staff, and their families.

We are hopeful that this change will allow us to open our season at a time when it is safe to do so. Due to this adjustment, some of our sessions will occur on different dates; some have been shortened; and others are canceled. While we are saddened that this season will not look like the ones that came before, we know that Highbrook Lodge will continue to play an incredible role in our lives this summer.

For more information, including the updated session offerings and schedule, please visit the Highbrook Lodge pages of CSC’s website here: clevelandsightcenter.org/content/covid-19-update

As always, if you have any questions or concerns - please contact Camp Manager Jenny Schaeffer by phone (216-658-4596) or email (jschaeffer@clevelandsightcenter.org).

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.

-CSC’s Call Center this week began taking calls to support the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections after being contacted last weekend to provide support with their call volume. In addition, Customer Service Representatives continue to be extremely busy fielding calls for the Office of the Secretary of State of Ohio Frank LaRose, as well as ongoing calls for the Ohio Department of Taxation. On Monday, the team handled nearly 2,300 calls related to voting and taxation and another 2,000 calls on Tuesday...great work, team!
Registration team members continue to make outbound calls and conducting various client surveys, and assisting with data entry including case notes into ClientCare. As a reminder, they are available to register new clients and answer many questions. They can be reached through CSC’s main phone number, 216-791-8118, and listening to the prompts.

Bright Futures Preschool’s online activities this week continued with Facebook group time and YouTube videos!

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!

Book Discussion Group gathered via teleconference on Tuesday, April 14th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to talk about the book Contact by Carl Sagan. For more information on this monthly social recreation program, contact Alicia Howerton (x4587).

Past campers at Highbrook Lodge – both adults and children – as well as CSC staff members attended the very first virtual BONDfire hosted by the camp team on Thursday evening! The group enjoyed sing-a-longs and telling campfire stories. A total of 46 people participated in the BONDfire!

Congratulations, You’re Awesome!

Congratulations to Jackie Bumba and Marcia Houston for winning the Random Acts of Awesome Award presented at Thursday’s All Staff Meeting. Jackie was nominated by Barbara Piascik and a client and Marcia was nominated by Jassen Tawil.

Congrats to everyone else who was nominated this time around: Taylor Volrich nominated by Susie Meles; Randy Knapp nominated by Susie Meles; Jeff Getts and Marty Stefka nominated by Alicia Howerton; Andrea Marley nominated by Kristen Callahan; and Scott Malone nominated by Erin St. Denis.

Items of Note

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: clevelandsightcenter.org/resources

Google’s new braille keyboard makes typing more accessible on Android. Called the TalkBack braille keyboard, Google has worked with braille experts and braille users to develop a keyboard built on the standard braille 6 key layout. It’s meant to be familiar to braille users to reduce acclimation time. Google says the new keyboard can be used wherever a keyboard would normally appear on Android and can be invoked and dismissed with the same ease as with alternate languages. It "allows you to delete letters and words, add lines, and submit text" which presumably means it works like a keyboard is expected to. To read more, click here: https://bit.ly/2z3EYoY
- 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 Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet on Monday, April 20th at 4:00 p.m.

- Did you know penguins “propose” to each other? Not only do penguins mate for life, but they also have a ritual to mark the occasion. But since they can’t get down on one knee, male Gentoo penguins hunt avidly for the smoothest, roundest pebble to present to their potential mates. If the female accepts his “proposal,” she adds the pebble to her nest and the two will soon breed. So important are these pebbles that male penguins have been known to fight over the most perfect ones!