5/29/20

2019 Impact Report is Now Available

-The 2019 Impact Report and Honor Roll of Donors and Volunteers are now available! A central objective of the 2019 Impact Report was to focus on the 4E’s (Engage, Educate, Empower, Employ) and the impact programs, services, staff and volunteers have on those areas, with a focus on the agency’s goal to enable those who are blind or have low vision to achieve independence. We engage, educate, empower and employ; providing training and guidance to our clients and the communities we serve.

Thanks to the Marketing and Development teams for their collaborative effort in getting the annual report piece produced as well as all CSC departments for providing data and content to continue to tell the CSC story. The pieces can be viewed online, including an accessible audio version, at clevelandsightcenter.org/annual-report.

What’s Happening at CSC

-Randy Knapp, CSC’s senior assistive technology practitioner, noticed a demand from our clients to learn technology in this new, remote world. He mentioned this need to a friend of his during a casual conversation a few weeks ago. Feeling the strong connection to Randy and his passion for his work, the friend was moved to help and made a financial gift to be used for Assistive Technology and Training. The generous donation supported the purchase of laptops that are being loaned to clients in order to
participate in computer training so they can re-gain independence and stay better connected to family and friends in these different times. Randy is booked through the end of June with trainings and has been able to assign “homework” to clients who are now able to practice on their own - something they had not been able to do before the laptops.

- The Rehabilitation Services team continues to provide services remotely and also now in person. The Low Vision Clinic doctors have started telehealth appointments and the Eyedea Shop remains open for business online, on the phone and in person. Please remember to call 216-791-8118 to schedule an appointment and learn what services are available to clients in need.

- The Outreach department hosted the final poetry workshop on Tuesday that included Poet Katie Daley, students from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner Medical School and CSC clients. Katie has been the “resident poet” at CSC for 8 years and has been obtaining a grant each year to assist new medical students through art to retain their empathy as they become a future doctor. In this year’s four-week program, the group created some poems titled “For the Stranger,” “Instead” and “Postcard from Ohio in the Future.”

- Winner’s Club will be taking place virtually on June 4th from 12:00 p.m - 1:00 p.m. Clients are encouraged to grab their lunch and join CSC for an hour of socialization featuring special guest, author Annie Hogsett. Annie will be sharing her writing journey which will include a great group discussion! CSC staff is encouraged to share this information with clients leading up to the gathering. Please contact Vince Williams (x4597 or vwilliams@clevelandssightcenter.org) to obtain the access information for this virtual event.

- Book Discussion Group’s next session will be June 9th and will be reviewing the publication Claire and Mr. Tiffany. For more information on this monthly program, contact Alicia Howerton (x4587).

CSC Receives Donation of Masks

- Earlier this week, CSC received a donation of masks from Mask Makers of Ohio, a group of women who volunteer to sew masks for non-profit organizations and front line workers. A coordinator of the group, Tricia, was familiar with CSC as an organization from her time as a parent volunteer at a Lakewood area preschool that hosted vision screenings for the youngsters. Thanks to Angela Sciara who found this group on a recent television newscast then filled out an application on Facebook and began the dialogue with Tricia. If anyone has extra material or supplies for mask making, the group would be very appreciative of any materials for donation. Contact Angela (x7380) for more information.

Image of donated face masks in a variety of colors and patterns
**Items of Note**

-The sidewalk on East 105th Street (on the CSC property side) is currently closed and is anticipated to remain closed through next week as well. The Facilities department will keep informed of any updates and when the sidewalk is re-opened.

-Join the Virtual AFB Leadership Conference for a panel discussion of the preliminary findings of the Flatten Inaccessibility study, which investigated the impact of COVID-19 on US adults who are blind or have low vision. The survey was completed by 1,921 individuals and covered technology, healthcare, transportation, employment, education, social experiences, voting, and access to meals, food and supplies. The researchers will highlight some of the study findings and discuss how we can use data from this study to chart a road map to ensure those with vision loss are fully included in the response to COVID-19 and future challenging situations. The program is June 4th at 1:00 p.m. For more information and to register, click here: https://bit.ly/36NZ1es

-To read an article featuring accessible streaming services with audio description for people who are blind or have low vision, click here: https://bit.ly/2ZPG759

**Did You Know?**

-Did you know if you add up all the numbers from 1 to 100 consecutively (1 + 2 + 3...) it totals 5,050?