

## Keeping You “In the Know...” 10/20/17

### Senate President Larry Obhof Visits CSC:

- State Senator Larry Obhof visited CSC on Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> for a tour and to learn about the agency’s programs and services. Larry Obhof serves as President of the Ohio Senate for the 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly. As the presiding officer of the 33-member Senate, Senator Obhof is responsible for leading the Senate's Majority Caucus as it sets the policy agenda for the two-year legislative cycle. He is also responsible for the formal organization of the chamber, including recognizing members in debate, preserving order and decorum, calling for votes and signing all acts.



Senator Larry Obhof



Senator Obhof with Larry Benders and Alicia Howerton in the Eyedea Shop

### Strengthening Partnerships:

- The following eye care professionals have a particular interest in working with children and recently visited CSC to spend some time in

the Bright Futures Preschool classroom and enjoy a full tour of the agency. Dr. Joseph Griffiths of University Ophthalmology Associates visited on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Leah Steele of Madison Eye Care visited on Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> and Dr. Marina Eisenberg from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation will visit CSC on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>.

- Volunteer Manager Melissa Bresnahan participated as a judge in the annual Delta Gamma “Anchor Splash” fundraiser event at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). During the event held the evening of Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Greek Life members at CWRU participated in relays and a synchronized swimming competition. The event was organized by the Delta Gamma volunteer group and proceeds from the fun will be donated to CSC.



Group photo of Delta Gammas at Anchor Splash

- Mary Jo Chisnell and Meghan Hanrahan attended a meeting on universal design and inclusion on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> hosted by University Circle, Inc. at the Cleveland Museum of Art, with a focus on marketing and communications strategies for University Circle.
- Lisa Cellura, Cathy Javorsky and Avenue visited St. Mary's School in Mentor on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> to present the “What to Do When You Meet a Person Who Is Blind” program to two 4<sup>th</sup>-grade classes, reaching 70 students and teachers. Desmond Kennedy visited Cleveland Clinic - Rehabilitation Hospital in Avon on Tuesday, the

office of Dr. Benjamin Hu on Ridge Road in Parma on Wednesday and attended the SOM Center Campus of Lake Health on Thursday. Tom Sawyer attended the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging's wellness exposition held at the Gunning Park Recreation Center on Puritas Avenue in Cleveland on Thursday and represented CSC at the ACB State Convention for Ohio and Indiana held in Sandusky on Friday.

### What's Happening at CSC:

- CSC received a \$10,000 grant from the Ohio Children's Foundation, whose mission is to enhance the lives of children by providing grants to support services for at-risk children and families, by helping prepare children for kindergarten, and by advocating for public policy that will positively affect children's lives. The grant dollars will be applied to Early Intervention. CSC also received a grant from The Giant Eagle Foundation which will be applied towards general operations.
- Cleveland Sight Center welcomed six new volunteers to the ranks during volunteer orientation held on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. From left to right in the image below, a big CSC welcome to Julie (Administrative Assistant), Anisha (Latin Dance) Antonio (Share the Vision), Priya (Latin Dance), Elise (Early Intervention) and Madison (Latin Dance). Be sure to say hi and welcome to this wonderful crew when you see them around the agency!



Group photo of new volunteers

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool enjoyed a music session on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> conducted by music therapist Maria Williams from the Music Settlement. Maria will be providing weekly sessions to CSC's preschool class. Bright Futures Preschool recently received a donation of 10 Perkins brailers from Westerville Library. Our good friend and volunteer Vance Simpkinson has taken on the challenge of cleaning and getting them ready for use. Thank you Vance and Westerville Library!



Students participate in their first music session

- Moreed Kamal held a "Share the Vision" (STV) volunteer refresher training session on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at CSC. The training covered topics including confidentiality, HIPPA and the different aspects of being a STV volunteer, such as the initial contact with new



STV clients, potential problem contacts with clients, guidelines and boundaries of STV volunteers and when to begin discussing clients graduating from the STV program. Nearly 30 volunteers attended the session.



Nicole Kahn speaks to Share the Vision volunteers

- CSC hosted a “Because of You” major donor appreciation event on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Maltz Performing Arts Center. Over 60 guests had an opportunity to mingle and speak with CSC staff members and hear remarks from Chris Ronayne, President of University Circle, Inc.



Larry Benders thanks the donors



Chris Ronayne addresses the group

- The Therapeutic Recreation (TR) team continues October with additional new programming at CSC. This week, participants had the

opportunity to participate in a drum circle on Wednesday and the TR team led various board games on Thursday. Next week, the group plans the following activities from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.: Meditation on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>; Improvisation on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>; Seated Volleyball on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. For more information or the full calendar of events, email Mollie Evans at [mevans@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:mevans@clevelandsightcenter.org).

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool will be dressed in Halloween costumes and will parade through the halls of CSC the early afternoon of Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Get those goodies ready to hand out to the trick-or-treaters!
- Save the date for CYAS “Cookies & Milk with Santa” for CSC’s young clients and their families, held at CSC on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Invitations will be sent out by CYAS in the near future. For more information about this invite-only event, contact Lorie Marsalis (216-791-8118).

### Highbrook Lodge Celebrates Fall Weekend:

- Fall Weekend at Highbrook Lodge was enjoyed by 23 clients last weekend. With the help of volunteers the campers were able to enjoy fall and Halloween themed activities – even though the weather tricked the group into feeling like it was summer! Campers carved pumpkins, enjoyed campfire songs outside, made apples over the campfire, got creative with several art projects, danced and cardio-drummed to “Thriller” and “The Monster Mash,” participated in a Halloween STEM project, hiked the campgrounds, made candles and more!





Participants cut paper for their art project



Campers prepare to make candles over campfire



Camper ready to throw a bean bag in cornhole



Carved and lit pumpkins in front of a cabin

### Upcoming Events at Highbrook Lodge for Adult Campers

Holiday at Highbrook

Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

Leave CSC at 9:00 a.m.; return at 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$30 per participant

Transportation included

Register and pay by November 20<sup>th</sup>

Winter Weekend 2018

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> (6:00 p.m.) – Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> (noon)

Cost: \$65 per participant

Transportation from CSC: \$15 additional per participant

Register and pay by February 15<sup>th</sup>

For both events camper paperwork needs to be completed and submitted by registration deadline. For more information email Lindsay at [lsvarovsky@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:lsvarovsky@clevelandsightcenter.org).

### Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week: 2018 Large Print Calendars and Holiday Cards

- 2018 Large Print Calendars have arrived and are in stock at the Eyedeas Shop! Some of this year's Holiday Cards are now in as well. The original artwork for this year's new Holiday Cards is now on display in the store for viewing. Stop by and check out "Holiday Magic," "Southern Holiday" and "Winter's Rest." The calendars are \$10.00 each and the holiday cards are \$1.00 each.

### Items of Note:

- Congratulations to CSC Board Chair Sheryl King Benford who was inducted into the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Hall of Fame on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at Cleveland State University. The Cleveland-Marshall College of Law Hall of Fame was established to honor the outstanding contributions to the success and prestige of the law school by distinguished alumni, faculty, staff, friends and community leaders. Representing CSC at the event included Board Trustees Tom Furnas, Jill Marcotte, Doug Piper, Beverly Roach and Bill Spring as well as CSC staff members Larry Benders, Karen Hiller and Marcia Houston. Congratulations, Sheryl!





Group photo of honorees including Sheryl King Benford (fourth from left)

- A Food and Drug Administration advisory committee endorsed the first gene therapy for an inherited disorder — a rare condition that causes a progressive form of blindness that usually starts in childhood. The recommendation came in a unanimous 16-0 vote after a daylong hearing that included testimonials by doctors, parents of children blinded by the disease and from children and young adults helped by the treatment. [Click here to read more.](#)
- An online resource called MusicForTheBlind.com has over 1200 song lessons and over a dozen beginner courses for piano, guitar, banjo, bass, saxophone and more! Check out all of the great music resources at [www.MusicForTheBlind.com](http://www.MusicForTheBlind.com) and sign up for a newsletter to receive updates, coupons and discounts on these easy-to-use music lessons designed just for those with visual impairments.

### Did You Know?

- The cornerstone for the Terminal Tower, Cleveland's 52-story iconic building, was laid March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1927. Construction included more than 55,000 barrels of cement, 17,800 tons of steel, 2,200 windows and 10 miles of water pipe. About 1,400 buildings were razed on 35 acres of land for the Terminal Tower complex as conceived by the Van Sweringen brothers. They commissioned an architect to create a private suite in the skyscraper that included bedrooms, a dining room,

balcony and fireplace.