



## Keeping You “In the Know...” 12/8/17

### CSC Receives Another 4-Star Rating!

- Cleveland Sight Center has received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator of charities. This coveted 4-star rating was awarded for the short budget period of October 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. The award is the highest possible rating and indicates that CSC adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way. Attaining a 4-star rating verifies that CSC exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in this area of work. This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Cleveland Sight Center apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness. [Click here to review CSC's information on Charity Navigator's website.](#)

### Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation to Support CSC's Electronic Medical Record Project:

- Cleveland Sight Center received word this week that the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation has agreed to support CSC's electronic medical record (EMR) project with a \$100,000 grant! With funding from the Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation to support client-centered programming, the EMR system will allow staff from every service area to access each client's comprehensive plan; enable efficient, coordinated provision of services; and support refinement of service delivery as needs and outcomes change.

## Continuing to Tell CSC's Story:

- CSC was a featured nonprofit at the annual “Philanthropia” charity event held at Landerhaven on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. “Philanthropia” is a benefit conceived by Harlan Diamond of Executive Caterers at Landerhaven following 9/11 to raise money for Cleveland nonprofits. Larry Benders spoke to the group of approximately 1,000 people about CSC and thanked the guests for the work they do and the charitable endeavors they support. Also representing CSC included Board Chair Sheryl King Benford, Board Trustee Tom Furnas, Board Trustee Priscilla Hoag, Board Trustee Fred Jones, as well as CSC staff members Lisa Cellura, Meghan Hanrahan, Karen Hiller, Marcia Houston, Alicia Howerton and Jessica Polack.



Larry Benders speaks from the stage at Landerhaven

## Educating the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- A group of 25 students from Hawken School visited CSC on Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> to learn about the agency and technology from Lisa Cellura and Alicia Howerton. The group was the second of three

classes from Hawken School to visit CSC, with a final class to visit next week.

- Desmond Kennedy made visits this week to the office of disabilities at the Cuyahoga Community College Metro campus, Cleveland Eye Clinic in Brecksville and a HUD office in Canton to discuss CSC programs and services. Desmond and Steve Frohwerk visited a marketing class at John Carroll University where students presented their findings from a recent survey to determine CSC's perception and awareness in the community among doctors and medical professionals, clients/patients and caregivers of clients/patients.
- Tom Sawyer and Alicia Howerton made Westlake and surrounding areas their target impact focus this week, where they left collateral, collected cards of appropriate contacts and talked about CSC services at many locations, which included Kendal at Home, Gardens at Westlake, The Belvedere of Westlake, Welsh Home, Arden Courts, Rockport Senior Living, Brighton Gardens Westlake, Sunrise of Rocky River, Emerald Village Senior Living, Village of the Falls and Riverview Pointe.
- CSC is partnering with Barnes & Noble on an upcoming book fair to benefit the agency. You can shop in-store at the Crocker Park location on December 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> or online from December 11<sup>th</sup> through December 17<sup>th</sup> and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to CSC. Check in with Melissa Bresnahan for a flyer to take to the store with you, otherwise, follow these instructions if you're making purchases online:
  - Visit [bn.com/bookfairs](http://bn.com/bookfairs) to support CSC online from 12/11-12/17 to 12/17/17
  - Enter Bookfair ID 12199584 at checkout.

### What's Happening at CSC:

- The Therapeutic Recreation Department kicked off December in style with two back-to-back "Holiday at Highbrook" events with adults

attending on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and youth on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Campers completed a holiday art project, took a hike (the weather was GREAT!), bowled, cardio-drummed, sang camp and holiday songs and more! Campers were already eagerly talking about summer 2018 – only 6 months away!



Camper tries cardio-drumming



Campers display their art projects

- Group trainings on how to use the iPhone began this week at CSC. Hosted by Randy Knapp and funded through the Senior Independence Fund, individuals age 55 and over will participate in weekly training sessions the next three weeks.
- Students in Bright Futures Preschool have been busy to start the holiday season, creating the Polar Express train in their classroom, enjoying playing under the Christmas tree, working on Christmas crafts and making sure to stay well-rested with afternoon naps!





The classroom Polar Express train



Preschooler making a craft

A good nap after a busy day



Youngster ringing the jingle bells

- Thanks to all staff members who attended, participated in and presented during Thursday's Strategic Plan Check-In as the Plan continues to operationalize and be implemented at CSC.

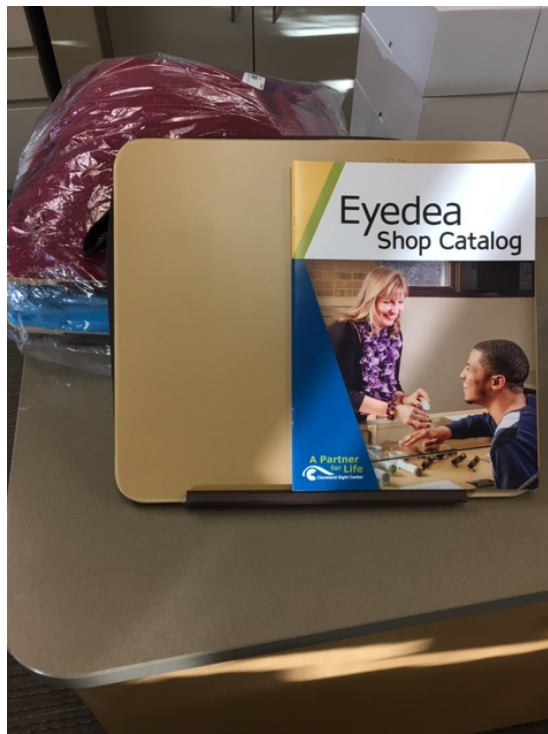


Mollie Evans and Lindsay Svarovsky present on Therapeutic Recreation

- The CYAS department hosts the annual “Cookies and Milk with Santa” event at CSC on Saturday. A total of 250 people are expected including clients and their family members.
- There will be no Job Club meeting for the month of December as the group will be taking a break for the holidays and wishes everyone a healthy and happy New Year. Job Club is tentatively planned to resume on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at CSC. Additional information will be provided closer to the date.

### Eyedeas Shop’s Featured Product of the Week: Lap Desk

- The Lap Desk is this week’s item of the week. The cushioned desk top can rest comfortably in your lap or on a tabletop to hold a laptop computer or just to rest a book or magazine for reading. It has a bottom lip to hold the reading material and keep it from sliding. It has a carry handle on one corner so it can be taken easily in the car or from room to room. It comes in several colors and is lightweight. The Lap Desk is available in the Eyedeas Shop for \$35.00. It makes a great gift for all ages.



The Lap Desk displaying an Eyedeas Shop Catalog

## Congratulations, You're Awesome!

- Congratulations to Mollie Evans, Lindsay Svarovsky, Susie Meles and Ali Thomas, all winners of the Random Acts of Awesome Award! Congratulations to Raymisha Strickland and Carol Levanoff for being nominated as well!



Mollie Evans, Lindsay Svarovsky and Larry Benders



Susie Meles and Larry Benders



Ali Thomas and Larry Benders

### Items of Note:

- Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus has made the staff at the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute his honorary elves this year. The staff will help send letters in Braille to boys and girls who are blind (those under the age of 10) in the United States. Fill out the form at the link below by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and click “submit” to make sure a letter is sent to the child. A reply from the North Pole in print and contracted Braille will be sent. [Click here to get started!](#)
- The Parma Hills Lions Club presents their annual winter fundraiser at Bleachers Sports Grill (6855 Ridge Road, Parma, OH 44129) on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and include the food buffet, beer, wine and well liquor and a portion of the proceeds benefits Bright Futures Preschool. Contact Cathy Javorsky (x8999) or Sylvia Snyder (x8777) for tickets or more information.

### Did You Know?



- It would take over 340 years to spend a night in every one of the hotel rooms in Las Vegas.