



## Keeping you “In the Know...” 1/8/16

### CSC Receives Three-Year Accreditation from CARF!

- The agency has received a **three-year accreditation** from CARF International! This achievement indicates that CARF has determined Cleveland Sight Center is committed to pursuing excellence in accordance with the ASPIRE to Excellence framework for quality services, programs and business practices.

A three-year accreditation, the highest accreditation possible during the process, means Cleveland Sight Center has satisfied each of the CARF accreditation conditions and has demonstrated substantial conformance to the standards. The latest accreditation is the **12<sup>th</sup>** consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that CSC has been awarded by CARF.

We should all share in and be proud of this prestigious accomplishment. Thank you for your dedication to this effort and dedication to providing the best possible services to those we serve.

Congratulations!

### Creating Awareness for CSC:

- On Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, [Lisa Cellura](#) conducted a presentation on disability etiquette at the Cuyahoga County Health Department’s Annual Environmental Meeting in Berea, OH. The meeting was hosted at Tony K’s restaurant on West Bagley Road and attendees were provided details on how to interact properly with individuals with disabilities. “Ask the individual if they require

assistance”, was the key lesson in [Lisa’s](#) message. Also discussed at the meeting was the role CSC’s [Employment Department](#) can play in fulfilling restaurant and food service vendor hiring needs.

- On Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, [Lisa Cellura](#) and [Cathy Javorsky](#) presented the “When You Meet a Person who is Blind” program to Pine Intermediate School in North Olmsted.
- [Ohio Senate District 24 Senator Tom Patton](#) visited the agency on Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> for a tour and to learn more about CSC’s programs and services.

### Share The Vision Continues to Grow:

- [Moreed Kamal](#) hosted a volunteer training for new [Share the Vision \(STV\)](#) volunteers on Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Three new [STV](#) volunteers were in attendance along with one returning volunteer from a leave of absence from the program. This now brings the total number of active [STV](#) volunteers to 51! The training went very well and there was very positive feedback from the trainees that attended.

### New Addition to the Transportation Department:

- The [Transportation](#) team welcomed a new arrival to its fleet last week – the Mobility Ventures MV-1 wheelchair-accessible vehicle. The MV-1 is the only factory-built wheelchair-accessible ADA-compliant vehicle in the world and diversifies CSC’s fleet of vans. The new van will be funded through a recent grant from the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA). [Click here](#) to learn more about the design and features of the MV-1.



Chris Gruber receives the keys to the van



Wheelchair ramp extends from the side of the van

### CSC to Participate in USABA/Anthem National Fitness Challenge:

- CSC is partnering with The United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) in the 2016 USABA/Anthem National Fitness Challenge. The goal of this program is to raise the physical activity levels of each participant to the level recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CSC is excited to work with the USABA and Anthem again this year towards lowering the obesity rate of people who are blind or have low vision by increasing each participant's physical activity levels.

CSC's Olympic Day will be held during the Winter Sports Camp February 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Some activities for the Winter Sports Camp weekend include goalball at the Chardon YMCA, snowshoeing at Highbrook Lodge, ice skating at The Pond in Bainbridge, and skiing at Alpine Valley in Chesterland. Participants will be limited to only the individuals in the National Fitness challenge. For more information, contact [Desmond Kennedy](mailto:Desmond.Kennedy@usaba.org) (216-791-8118). Visit the USABA/Anthem National Fitness Challenge page [here](#).



USABA National Fitness Challenge Logo

### Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

- This week's featured product in the [Eyedeas Shop](#): Large Print Date Planners – Months open up to 11" x 17" format (9" x 11" when closed); the planners have a laminated cover with pockets. Get yours today for only \$12.50 and stay organized in the New Year!
- Can't make it to the [Eyedeas Shop](#) at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at [www.eyedeasshop.com](http://www.eyedeasshop.com) and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

### Only SIX More Signups Equals \$5,000 for CSC!

- The agency needs just SIX more registrations to get a \$5,000 grant from the KidCents program of the Rite Aid Foundation! [Click here](#) for the information to get started...it's easy! By registering your existing RiteAid card or signing up for their rewards program Wellness+ with Plenti, CSC will receive credit towards a grant. Sign up today and help CSC achieve these funds – please pass along to family and friends!

### Items of Note:

- A representative of the agency's insurance company was at CSC on December 21<sup>st</sup> for a Loss Control visit to update and gather information specific to operations relative to controlling property and general

liability losses. The representative toured the building and reviewed various systems including electrical, roof, heating, sprinkler and fire protection among others. As has been the case in the past, CSC is far above average relative to housekeeping and preventative maintenance practices and no recommendations for improvement were offered. Congrats to the [Facilities](#) department for their continued hard work and another great report!

- The sidewalk on both the east and west sides of E.101st Street south of Chester are under construction. The construction manager of the project will allow access to Euclid Avenue in the following manner: cross Chester on the west side of 101st Street and with caution proceed through the Rite Aid parking lot and at the end of the lot you may return to the sidewalk, continuing south past the Post Office and United Cerebral Palsy to Euclid Avenue. If this is to change, and it may, the construction manager said he will inform CSC and we will do our best to pass it along. Any questions, please feel free to contact [Chris Gruber](#) (216-791-8118).
- The empty pill bottle collection by the Lions Clubs has ended. Thanks to all those who participated!
- Every January 4<sup>th</sup> is celebrated as World Braille Day to honor Louis Braille and to recognize the importance of his invention, the Braille system. Louis was born in France in 1809 and lost his sight at age three as a result of an eye injury. However, Louis overcame this disability and went on to be a devoted and high-achieving student. As a student, Louis struggled with the limited modes of reading and writing available to the blind and partially sighted. These limitations to his independence as a scholar encouraged Louis to invent a new system for reading and writing for the blind. He created a simplified yet versatile coded system, using raised dots to represent numbers and letters, that we now call Braille. To learn more about Louis Braille, [click here](#).
- A new device to monitor the health and well-being of guide dogs has been developed. The prototype, developed by researchers at North

Carolina State University, comprises a high-tech harness – similar to the style used by handlers of guide dogs – that monitors a dog’s breathing and heart rate. The information is then disseminated to the owner through a vibration on the device. [Click here](#) for the full article.

- For all you online shoppers, remember CSC is a participating charity of [AmazonSmile](#), where online retailer [Amazon](#) donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations selected by the customer. CSC is listed as **Cleveland Society For The Blind** by AmazonSmile. Visit the [website here](#) and pass along to family and friends to select Cleveland Society For The Blind as the recipient of a donation on your next AmazonSmile purchase!

### Did You Know?

- CSC served over 14,000 people in Fiscal Year 2015 and reached over 16,000 individuals through education and outreach programs.