

# Keeping you "In the Know..." 2/5/16

# **CSC's Annual Report:**

CSC's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2015 has arrived! The report, which also includes the Honor Roll of Donors and Volunteers, will be will be delivered to all those who supported the agency in Fiscal Year 2015. It will be posted in a variety of formats to CSC's website soon. Thanks to staff who provided content, ideas, facts, figures, referrals, and more for this important publication as we continue to tell our story!

# From the Annual Report: President's Message

• Tell our story – Raise the bar – Build on success. These three focus points have guided me in this year of leadership transition at Cleveland Sight Center. Our story is a great one and we continue to share it through this publication, our website, social media, community presentations, and face-to-face meetings. We have raised the bar and will continue doing so for all associated with CSC as our clients deserve nothing but our consistent, best efforts. Our successes – there have been many, but most important among these are those that afford our clients an increase in their independence. From our youngest infant who is blind to our most senior client with diminishing vision, we offer hope, guidance, counsel, and confidence. Thank you for your support as we continue to tell our story, raise the bar, and build on success in the coming year as Cleveland Sight Center celebrates 110 years as the premier Northeast Ohio community resource for those who are blind or have low vision.

Larry Benders
President and Executive Director

# Thank You Shoppers – CSC to Receive Grant:

 CSC will receive a \$5,000 grant from The RiteAid Foundation, the result of new sign-ups to the KidCents and Wellness+ with Plenti programs! Larry Benders and Bill Spiker will meet with regional leaders of The Rite Aid Foundation at the store across Chester Avenue on Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> for a check presentation. Thanks to everyone who signed up for the program – your support generated important grant dollars for the agency!

# Winter Sports Camp Weekend:

• CSC's Olympic Day will be held during this weekend's Winter Sports Camp. Activities include goalball at the Chardon YMCA, snowshoeing at Highbrook Lodge, ice skating at The Pond in Bainbridge, and skiing at Alpine Valley in Chesterland. As part of Olympic Day, 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.



USABA National Fitness Challenge Logo

 Camp brochures are here! Contact <u>Lindsay Lowe</u> (216-791-8118) for the 2016 Camp Season at Highbrook Lodge brochure or check out the sessions on CSC's website here.

# **Engaging the Community:**

 Lisa Cellura presented "Blindness Basics" to the staff of New Avenues for Independence on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. On Wednesday, Lisa Cellura and Meghan Hanrahan represented CSC Cleveland International Film Festival's movie match-up to identify possible films CSC can sponsor at April's upcoming film festival. Stay tuned for more information once CSC's film is assigned along with showing times!

# Sing Along with CYAS:

• Larry Benders visited Bright Futures Preschool on Tuesday morning for a singalong. Larry played guitar for the youngsters, who are focusing on "friendship" as a theme this week.



Larry shows his guitar to a preschooler



Preschooler touches the guitar strings



Larry shows a preschooler how to play



Preschooler holds the neck of the guitar

 This week was also "pet week" in Bright Futures Preschool. Thanks to Teacher of the Visually Impaired Andrea Marley and her dog Lee for visiting the students on Wednesday.



Preschooler goes face-to-face with Lee

Bright Futures Preschool received a \$500 donation this week courtesy
of the Highland Heights Lions Club. Earl Cohen, past Director of
Children's Services at CSC who is presently retired and a member of
the Highland Heights Lions Club, visited CSC to present the check to
Sylvia Snyder, which will assist in paying for the horseback riding for
the preschool students.



Sylvia Snyder receives a check from Earl Cohen

- Preschool enrollments are still being accepted for the remainder of the school year. Contact <u>Sylvia Snyder</u> (216-791-8118) for more information.
- Labels for Education is offering another bonus opportunity during February. Each bonus offer form requires 5 UPCs and earns CSC 50 points. UPCs from any of the participating products count, including Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson, Spaghetti O's, Prego, Pace, V8 and BIC. CSC can submit up to 25 forms, for a possible total of 1,250 points! Please help us take full advantage of this opportunity. Drop off Labels for Education UPCs to Lorie Marsalis in CYAS or put them in the container on the counter in the Employee Hub. Deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!



"Leap at 50 Points" graphic

# Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

- This week's featured product in the Eyedea Shop: Color N Count Braille Coloring Book – Cleveland Sight Center's very own Braille coloring book, designed by Sylvia Snyder and Jennifer Dean. Cost is only \$5.00.
- Can't make it to the Eyedea Shop at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at <a href="www.eyedeashop.com">www.eyedeashop.com</a> and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

#### SAVE THE DATE!

 This year's White Cane Walk event will be held Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at Legacy Village in Lyndhurst! The event will feature a 5K run, 1-mile walk, and white cane walk experience with additional activities. Updates will be made online at <a href="https://www.clevelandsightcenter.org">www.clevelandsightcenter.org</a> as more details are finalized and registration goes live.

#### Items of Note:

- Do you subscribe to a magazine, but don't know what to do with it after you have finished reading it? Consider donating the magazine to CSC's Radio Reading program and have it available to listeners to Cleveland Sight Center Network (CSCN). Listeners have a wide variety of interests, so many magazines are acceptable. The program requests that magazines be somewhat current, within the last month or two. If you are interested in donating a magazine or have any questions, contact <u>David McKee</u> (216-791-8118).
- February is low vision awareness month.
- Nano Retina is a company in Israel focused on developing products that will improve the quality of life of people who are blind by effectively

replacing the natural function of a diseased retina with a sophisticated artificial retina. Click here to learn more about them and their product.

The Parma Hills Lions Club hosts its "Spring Into Action" fundraiser event from 6:00pm - 9:00pm on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at Bleachers Sports Grill, 6855 Ridge Road, Parma. Proceeds of the event will support Cleveland Sight Center. Dinner includes draft beer, well liquor, and wine. Tickets are \$25 in advance. Email Maureen Connors at <a href="maureenconnors@sbcglobal.net">maureenconnors@sbcglobal.net</a> or call at 216-323-6659. Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) can also provide details or more information.

#### Did You Know?

 Spellbound celebrates 30 years in 2016! Save the date for Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup> for this year's gala which will be held at Landerhaven.