



Keeping You “In the Know...” 4/28/17

In Memoriam: Dr. Anthony Easley

- One of our beloved team members, Dr. Anthony Easley, passed away Saturday, April 22nd. Dr. Easley was a professional, a colleague, a coach, a friend, and so much more. Cleveland Sight Center offers our condolences to his family, friends, and teammates.



Dr. Anthony Ryan Easley
February 17, 1972 – April 22, 2017

Dr. Anthony Ryan Easley was born February 17, 1972 in Tupelo, MS to the parents of Sara C. Easley and Charlie Patton Sr. He accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized as a young child at Red Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Tupelo. He was a faithful member and loved to sing in the choir. He enjoyed mentoring the youth, especially assisting high school seniors to pursue higher education.

Anthony graduated from Tupelo High School in 1990. After receiving a full music scholarship to attend Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, Anthony spent the next four years developing his skills of working closely with others. During his decorated college career, Anthony was an active leader on campus. His senior year, he was elected to the Student Government Association as the Vice-President.

Upon graduating with a degree in sociology and a minor in psychology from Stillman in 1994, Anthony received an assistantship to Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida to study psychology. After one semester of psychology, Anthony's true career field was discovered. He changed his major to pursue a Master's in counseling education. Anthony graduated from Florida A&M University in August of 1996 with a Master's of Education degree and embarked on his career in education.

Anthony immediately moved to Orlando, Florida where he lived for the next ten years. While in Orlando, Anthony's career path took him on a fast track through the educational ranks. He served as an elementary school guidance counselor, a middle school guidance counselor, a college professor of education and finally as the Manager of Student Services at Valencia Community College. Anthony enrolled in the University of Sarasota and began post graduate studies in higher education. In 2002, Anthony completed the requirements for the Specialist of Education degree in higher educational administration. In 2003, he completed the Doctorate of Education in educational leadership, where he received his Doctorate Degree. His doctoral dissertation was, "African American Men who are the Presidents of Predominately White Institutions; Their Pathways to the Presidency". Anthony's extensive educational career allowed him to be well versed in varying areas of the academic process for young people. He was often called upon to mentor other new professionals as they started their professional careers.

In mid-2006, Anthony suddenly lost a significant amount of his vision due to a retinal detachment. At the time, he was unsure that he could continue a career in education; therefore, he withdrew from his position at Valencia Community College and returned to Tupelo, Mississippi with his family. After a few years, Anthony began getting restless and started looking for work.

His vision issues still problematic; however, his ambition was strong. After struggling with finding the perfect fit for his passion for education and his now stabilized vision issue, Anthony enrolled in a vision rehabilitation program where he learned to use techniques to overcome his lack of vision.

In 2011, Anthony completed a vocational rehabilitation program for the blind and started working at a factory packing boxes. For one year, Anthony worked at this minimum wage job only to prove to himself and to others that he was not what is disability said he was. He never stopped the pursuit to regain is professional career in the field of education. In 2012, Anthony and Demetry relocated to Cleveland, OH as he accepted a position as Manager of Special Projects at Cleveland Sight Center. Special Projects included many initiatives at CSC including but not limited to leading Consumer Council, being a liaison to Cleveland RTA to advocate for Paratransit, and assisting in the Call Center with quality assurance and training. He was later promoted to Director of Client Experience, where he could put his exceptional talents of listening and teamwork to optimize the services that CSC clients receive. Anthony took great pride in his work and enjoyed assisting in helping others succeed. In 2015, Anthony had an eye procedure that restored a great amount of his vision. He went from 20/400 to 20/50 vision, which allowed him to require very little assistance. He continued to work at Cleveland Sight Center until he became ill with stage 4 cancer. Anthony refused to let this illness defeat him and continued to fight until he took his last breath on April 22, 2017 at his home with Demetry by his side.

Anthony leaves to cherish his memory: Partner of 9 years, Demetry Sorrells, Cleveland, OH; Father, Charlie Patton Sr (Bernice), Belden, MS; Son, Kyle Easley, Shannon, MS; Granddaughter, Skyla McMillan, Tupelo, MS; Sister, Brandi Easley-Lanier (Marques), Tupelo, MS; Brothers Charles Sims (Tonya), Belden, MS; Charlie Patton Jr, Belden, MS and Christopher Patton, Belden, MS and a host of other relatives and friends.

Anthony was preceded in death by: Mother, Sara C. Easley; Grandfather Clyde Easley, Grandmother, Clara Easley; Grandmother Willie Mae Edwards; Niece, Kenadee McCullough.

RSVPs Due for Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees:

- RSVPs for CSC's Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees are due today, Friday, April 28th. The Annual Meeting is Thursday, May 4th from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Corporate College East and will include a board meeting, year in review, Partner for Life award presented to Delta Gamma Sorority and Alumnae and featured conversation with friend of CSC and fashion designer Stephanie Nunn.

Educating the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- Nicole Kahn, Judy Post and Kanden Tolbert of CSC's Employment Department welcomed the Revenue Group to CSC on Wednesday, April 26th. The Revenue Group is a leading accounts receivable management company who wants to learn how they can use adaptive equipment at their call center in order to hire CSC consumers. The group also met with Susie Meles and David Magyar and toured the agency with Alicia Howerton. They were very impressed with all that they observed and not only want to partner with CSC but want to hold a company job fair at CSC in the future. Both teams are excited about this partnership.
- Cleveland Sight Center was the host site for the first meeting of University Circle Inc.'s (UCI) 2017 Universal Design and Inclusion Series held Thursday, April 27th for University Circle stakeholders and other community members. It was an opportunity to learn about the local organizations and resources to improve accessibility and inclusion. Mary Jo Chisnell and Susie Meles participated in a panel discussion during the event, speaking about CSC, what the agency does and how the agency can help UCI to enhance accessibility to resources in the University Circle community. CSC was joined by Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center, Maximum Accessible Housing of Ohio (MAHO) and ADA Cleveland.



Logo for UCI's Universal Design & Inclusive Access program

- Susie Meles spoke to 25 seniors at the Senior Center in Macedonia about programs at CSC and presented the “What You Do When You Meet a Person Who is Blind” program.
- Desmond Kennedy visited Cleveland Vision Center on Brookpark Road on Tuesday, discussed CSC’s programs and services with staff of the Bedford location of Cleveland Eye Clinic on Thursday and attends the Collinwood Health Fair on Friday.
- Lisa Cellura presents the “Blindness Basics” program to the Northeast Ohio Case Management Group on Friday, April 28th, at the Embassy Suites hotel in Independence, which includes nurses, case managers and discharge managers across the area.
- CSC is the place to be Saturday evening as Delta Gamma Fraternity Cleveland East Alumnae Chapter hosts their “Night at the Races” fundraiser. All proceeds from the event benefit CSC! Thank you DGs!
- CSC will be well represented at Jonah’s Vision fundraiser on Sunday at St. John Vianney church in Mentor. Larry Benders, Lisa Cellura, Karen Hiller, Alicia Howerton, Annette Jakse, Steve Jambrozy, Lorie Marsalis and Sylvia Snyder will attend on behalf of the agency to enjoy the event and present information on CSC’s programs and services.

Thank You Volunteers!

- CSC recognized and thanked its tremendous corps of volunteers with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner held at CSC on Thursday evening. The group enjoyed a fantastic meal (beef brisket, chicken piccata, vegetable lasagna, penne pasta, green beans, salad and dessert) served by CSC staff members followed by raffle prizes, conversation and camaraderie.

Thanks to the following CSC associates for their assistance in making such a pleasant evening led by Volunteer Manager Melissa Bresnahan: Larry Benders, Lisa Cellura, Officer Art Chenevey, Jennifer Dean, Mollie Evans, Charlotte Fornal, Steve Frohwerk, Meghan Hanrahan, Karen Hiller, Jim Hlavaty, Alicia Howerton, Marcia Houston, Moreed Kamal, Desmond Kennedy, Kevin Krencisz, Scott Malone, David McKee, Susie Meles, Sylvia Snyder and Phyllis Solomon.

- National Volunteer Week wraps up this afternoon with “Thank You Day.” This event is open to anyone who appreciates volunteers (Board Trustees, staff, clients, volunteers who appreciate other volunteers, etc.)! Stop by the Client Hub as your schedule allows between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. and listen to some fun music, tap into your creative side, and make or write a beautiful thank you card for a volunteer you know (or donate one to Volunteer Services to give to a CSC Volunteer).

What's Happening at CSC and Highbrook Lodge:

- Calls from this year's Ohio Department of Taxation campaign ended Monday, April 24th. CSC's Call Center helped play an important role in assisting Ohioans receive a timely tax refund and helped to prevent fraud, handling 33,324 calls this year! CSC's friends at InfoCision assisted with some of the calls, but this campaign could not have been a success without CSC Customer Service Representatives Nickisha Evans, Steve Jambrozy, Matt Jennings, Gail Jones and Tameka Kennedy. Great job team!

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool have been busy bees this spring! In April the students learned how to play baseball with occupational therapy students from Cleveland State University, began therapeutic horseback riding at Fieldstone Farm which included trying on helmets, measuring their weight before first rides and grooming and walking the horses, and had lots of Easter fun. The class also practiced cutting, writing and making letters (M is for macaroni). They also celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up trash in the Empowerment Park playground, learning how to sort the trash to recycle it and by making some special crafts. Next week the students will learn how to plant flowers.



Students decorate paper Easter eggs



A student completes his "M" project



A student brushes a horse



Student and instructor walk a horse



Students display their baseball crafts



Students hit a baseball in the playground

- A group of 22 staff from The Riverside Company spent the day volunteering at Highbrook Lodge on Tuesday, April 25th. The group focused on weeding and landscaping the various flower beds around camp and also prepping a cabin for new flooring.
- Registration for upcoming summer 2017 camp sessions at Highbrook Lodge is now OPEN! The 2017 schedule with additional information is posted on the Highbrook Lodge pages of CSC's website, [click here](#). Any questions, contact the Camp team at 216-791-8118.
- CSC provides a wide range of activities for school-age children that are key to developing confidence and independence. The following CYAS programs are scheduled for this summer. Contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) for more information.
 - Bright Futures Summer Day Camp (preschool ages)
 - ABCs Summer Day Camp (ages 5 – 8)
 - Career Exploration program (ages 14 – 16)
 - Summer Youth Work Experience program (ages 16 – 22)

[Click here](#) for each program's details posted on CSC's website.

Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week: OTC Reading Glasses

- Just a reminder for those who wear "readers" or "cheater" over the counter reading glasses. The Eyedeas Shop carries many strengths

from 1.5 through 6.0. If you need a pair for the car to read the map or by your easy chair to do the crossword puzzle or read that incoming text message, the Eyedea Shop has them for you. They are \$10.00.



OTC reading glasses on top of an edition of The Plain Dealer newspaper

- Can't make it to the Eyedea Shop at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at www.eyedeashop.com and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

Items of Note:

- The Ohio legislature has designated the first Monday in May as School Bus Driver Appreciation Day. This day is an opportunity for Ohioans to reflect on the outstanding job performance of more than 15,000 school bus drivers who transport students to and from school and school-related events throughout the year. Did you know CSC's transportation team made 4,590 trips and drove over 47,000 miles last fiscal year? Thanks to CSC's Transportation team of Scott Ford, Ted Sanders and Curtis Smiley for their work and providing a valuable service to the agency and clients while helping remove a barrier to independence.

- It has been brought to our attention that there is a robin's nest located in the crabapple tree on the left hand side as you walk out into the courtyard. Our wonderful birders wanted to let us know so that we do not hover too long or disturb the mother or eggs. Enjoy...from a distance. Looking forward to hearing the babies once they are hatched!



Robin's nest in the courtyard crabtree



Two eggs lay in the nest

Did You Know?

- In 1899, Cleveland's Coburn Haskell and Akron's Bertram Work partnered to develop and patent the design from which all golf balls are made today. One of the most notable professional golfers of all-time, Jack Nicklaus, is a native of Columbus. Nicklaus is the only player to complete a career "Grand Slam" on both the regular and senior tours, which consists of winning all four of golf's major championships.