

## Keeping You “In the Know...” 5/19/17

### CSC Tells Story in Columbus:

- CSC was represented in Columbus on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> by Larry Benders and Jassen Tawil. Larry gave testimony to try to raise awareness and funds for CSC. Larry and Jassen also met with legislators in additional meetings, including Senator Kenny Yuko (District 25, Richmond Heights) who shared his experience with a family member using the services of Cleveland Sight Center.



Jassen Tawil, Senator Kenny Yuko, Larry Benders

### Highbrook Lodge Receives 8-Passenger Golf Cart:

- Highbrook Lodge, CSC’s 63-acre camp in Chardon, received a donation of an 8-passenger golf cart on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, which will greatly fulfill a transportation need at camp for those campers who are blind or have low vision. Thanks to the collaborative fundraising

efforts of employees from Progressive, the Kiwanis Club of East Geauga and The Rogers Company, the golf cart was purchased from South East Golf Car Company and the summer camp team now has the ability to transport campers quickly to all areas of camp, helping eliminate barriers to accessibility and independence. Ken's Auto Body in Burton donated materials and labor to add requested features and Ace Hardware in Middlefield donated hardware. Said Camp Manager Lindsay Svarovsky, "The golf cart will allow us to transport campers around camp to all the activities. Overall it will help our campers fully experience our camp program alongside their peers, which in turn will help them increase their confidence, social well-being, leisure well-being and independence. We can't wait for camp season to start!"



The new golf cart painted "Camaro Green"



Lindsay Svarovsky at the wheel with passengers aboard

- In addition, employees from Progressive spent Wednesday preparing the camp for the summer season, assisting with mulching, weeding, cleaning and painting. Thank you Progressive!



Progressive group surrounds the new golf cart



Volunteers from Progressive unload mulch from the truck

## Walk for CSC on June 3<sup>rd</sup>!

- On behalf of the White Cane Walk Committee, Chaired by Trustee Sara Parish, we invite you to join us for a 1.25 mile walk (and other fun activities) to raise funds and awareness for CSC. This year's event will be held right here at 1909 East 101<sup>st</sup> Street on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>!

**WHAT IS WHITE CANE WALK?** White Cane Walk is CSC's annual event to raise critical dollars needed to support our mission and raise awareness of our agency and the services we provide.

**WHY SHOULD YOU WALK?** Over its 12-year history, White Cane Walk has raised over \$550,000 in support of CSC. These funds are vital to keep many programs and services available to clients, many of which are not covered by medical insurance, including white canes. This event is also a great way to show family, friends and colleagues the fantastic agency we call our work "home".

**WHAT'S NEW?** This year's walk will include a traditional 1.25 mile walk starting at CSC and heading towards the Art Museum Lagoon, where walkers will circle the lagoon's paved pathways and head back to CSC. After the walk, participants will be able to try activities of daily living, including walking with a white cane through the Empowerment Park! The Cleveland Metroparks NatureTracks interactive vehicle will



be on site too! A balloon artist and face painter will be here in addition to music, dancing, contests and food so there is something for everyone at White Cane Walk!

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?** Register to walk (adults \$15 includes event t-shirt; children 10 and under are free) at [www.whitecanewalk.org](http://www.whitecanewalk.org) or set up a fundraising team to share with family and friends ([www.whitecanewalk.org](http://www.whitecanewalk.org)). Consider helping as a volunteer by contacting Melissa Bresnahan at x4581. Exact volunteer duties are being finalized by the White Cane Walk Committee but there will be a need for event set up, sighted guide partners, raffle, and tear down. (Staff needed to perform their work functions that day have already been contacted.)

**HOW ELSE CAN YOU HELP?** Share the event with everyone you know! Spread the word on social media. Can't make it? Please consider a donation to this year's event or a team.

For more information, visit [www.whitecanewalk.org](http://www.whitecanewalk.org) or contact Steve Frohwerk (216-791-8118) with any questions or help setting up a team. Thanks for your continued support of CSC!

### Family Daily Living Skills Group Training Held by CSC:

- Earlier this month, a collaborative effort between Joel Proskovec and Toni Catron-Andrews in CSC's Social Work department and the Rehabilitation department brought some clients and their families, who are members of CSC's Caregiver group, together for a special family meal. The meal was set-up to help the family members of clients get a small glimpse of what it is like living with vision loss with the intention that by performing such routine tasks as preparing a meal or washing dishes, family members will gain a better understanding of what clients deal with on a day-to-day basis. The class was taught by Annette Jakse and Bryan Manthey. Ten people, including the clients, representing four families were present for the evening meal. Family members were blindfolded and instructed in a variety of adaptive

techniques for meal preparation and cleaning tasks. Even the 8 year old and 10 year old grandchildren participated. The following skill areas were covered:

- measuring and mixing skills
- breaking eggs
- cutting and chopping skills
- timing food
- stove top and oven safety
- eating skills
- washing dishes
- cleaning counter and floor surfaces

In the end, families enjoyed a meal of spaghetti and meat sauce with brownies for dessert. After every good meal, there is always clean-up. Dishes were washed and table and counter tops were cleaned. These tasks were also done under blindfold. According to the feedback received, fun was had by all, even the two year old, who especially liked the spaghetti noodles.

Experiences like these are extremely valuable. They give family members the opportunity to see how individuals who are blind or have low vision can function on a daily basis.

### Educating the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- Board Trustee Bob Englander hosted a guest at CSC this week for a tour of the agency and lunch. Bob was joined by Karen Bain Hiller and Lisa Cellura to discuss the agency's programs and services.
- The first of three classes from Hawken School visited CSC on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> to learn more about vision, perception and vision loss, hosted by Lisa Cellura and Alicia Howerton. Additional classes from Hawken School will participate in the same program at CSC over the next two weeks.

- Desmond Kennedy represented CSC at the Great Lakes Mall resource fair in Mentor on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, met with Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute on Wednesday and visited with Westgate Optometry in Fairview Park on Thursday. He will be attending the Foundation Fighting Blindness Cleveland VisionWalk event on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Edgewater Park to share information on CSC's programs and services. For more information on that event, [click here](#).
- CSC will participate in ADA Day 2017 on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> as part of University Circle's Wade Oval Wednesday (WOW) from 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. ADA Fest will be held from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. and will feature a resource fair and carnival activities. The WOW Concert will follow from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Come celebrate the Americans with Disabilities Act and party on Wade Oval Wednesday!
- Highbrook Lodge received a grant from Cleveland Clinic to financially assist in sending clients that live in the city of Cleveland to camp this summer. The camp team is looking to identify clients who may be interested in attending a session of camp who could benefit from this grant. Clients of all ages are eligible! If you know of someone who may be a good fit, please email Lindsay at [lhowe@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:lhowe@clevelandsightcenter.org) as soon as possible.

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

- Did you know gift certificates are available to the Eyedeas Shop? If you want to help someone obtain an item from the store and you don't know what would help them specifically, a gift certificate is just the ticket! The recipient can come in and choose what works best for them. Gift certificates are the perfect option and available in any amount. Contact the Eyedeas Shop team at x4666 for more information.
- Also being featured: Cleveland Sports Teams Lanyards. Display your fan loyalty for the home teams, keep your keys handy and/or display your CSC work ID around your neck. These sporty lanyards are only

\$3.00 each. A variety of other patterns are available as well. Proceeds benefit CSC's CYAS department.



Cleveland Indians and Cleveland Cavaliers lanyards

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

### Items of Note:

- Nominate a volunteer to be recognized by the Center for Community Solutions for their leadership and impact! The Center for Community Solutions selects one volunteer per year to be recognized for the impact they make on their organizations and in the community. Please contact Melissa Bresnahan ([mbresnahan@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:mbresnahan@clevelandsightcenter.org) or x4581) if you have a suggestion about a volunteer you think would be a good fit to nominate for this award or if you have questions about who might qualify for this unique and exciting honor.
- Bright Futures Preschool End of Year Celebration is Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium at CSC. The theme will be "The Year in Review." Please stop by as your schedule allows to congratulate the youngsters.

- The Job Club group will not meet during the month of May and looks forward to reconvening in June. Stay tuned for more information as details are arranged.
- 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 (x8777) 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.

- Save the date! This year's Staff Summer Potluck Luncheon will be on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium and CSC's courtyard, weather permitting. Stay tuned to All Staff emails and In The Know for more details as we get closer to the date!
- An article featuring friend of CSC Thomas Solich opening his third piano business, first in the Cleveland area, was in last weekend's Plain Dealer. Thomas, blind since birth, is a concert pianist with extensive knowledge of the latest acoustic and digital piano technology. [Click here for the full article](#).

### Did You Know?

- If you could put the planet Saturn in a gigantic pool of water, it would float like a ball. Earth and the moon would sink.