



**Keeping You “In the Know...” 6/7/19**

**White Cane Walk Celebrates 14 Years...Thank You for Your Support!**

-THANK YOU all Staff, Board Trustees, walkers, donors, attendees and volunteers for your incredible support of this year’s White Cane Walk, as we celebrated the wonderful agency that is Cleveland Sight Center, raising important dollars for CSC and increasing awareness for our mission! As of Friday morning, \$80,000 has been raised for programs and services! Because of you, we are able to make a difference in the lives of clients who are blind or have low vision. THANK YOU!!!

The agency was buzzing last Saturday as the 14<sup>th</sup> annual White Cane Walk was held at CSC for the third consecutive year. Many activities were featured on the grounds including learning stations and hands-on opportunities in the tents in the parking lot, White Cane Experience in the Empowerment Park, tours of the main building, face painting, balloon artists, games, music, raffle and tasty treats.

A highlight of the morning was the one mile walk from CSC to the Wade Oval Lagoon and back featuring the beautiful sights, sounds and smells of spring. Walkers sporting their red White Cane Walk event t-shirts made for great visuals to show support of CSC! Check out photos from the event below.

If you would still like to contribute to the fundraiser, [click here](#) to donate. Thank you for your support of White Cane Walk!



Board Trustee Sara Parish, CSC President and CEO Larry Benders, Board Trustee Karen Assink



Board Trustees with Larry Benders



Cleveland Indians mascot Slider holds a puppy in training



Slider high-fives CSC staff members leading the walk



A long line of walkers in red t-shirts along the pathway next to the lagoon with reflection in the water



White Cane Walk attendee tries the bowling activity



An attendee tries the White Cane Experience under blindfold with the assistance of a sighted guide partner

### **Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:**

-Erin St. Denis presented on “Medication Management and Innovations” at the Aging Eye Summit: Our Bodies-Our Vision in Rootstown on Thursday June 6<sup>th</sup>. Her talk was very informative and well received. Others attending the conference included Jennifer Dean, Annette Jakse, Randy Knapp, Bryan Manthey, Susie Meles, Sherry Raymont, Taylor Volrich and Scott Williams-Riseng. Barbara Piascik staffed a table at the conference educating the attendees on Cleveland Sight Center and products for people who are blind and low vision.

-Jennifer Dean and Karen Bain Hiller represented Cleveland Sight Center at the United Way Community Hub event titled “Serving Clients with Dignity” held at the Jerry Sue Thornton Center of Cuyahoga Community College in downtown Cleveland earlier this week.

-CSC board chair Howard Lichtig brought his friend John Seymour, a retired Navy pilot who is now in business, to CSC this week for a tour and agency overview. John was impressed with the agency and is interested in participating in upcoming special events the Golf Classic (July 22) and Spellbound (September 13).

-The Outreach team met with social workers at the MetroHealth Parma Campus to discuss CSC's programs and services this week.

-Barbara Piascik attended the Expo at the American Blind Bowling Association National Tournament last Saturday in Pittsburgh, PA, where she exhibited information about CSC and products available for the 300 people in attendance. Congratulations to Andrea Marley who participated in the bowling tournament!



Andrea Marley goes for a strike in bowling



Andrea Marley and Barbara Piascik at the CSC information table

-CSC participates in the annual "Parade the Circle" community event at Wade Oval on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Expected attendance throughout the event is 80,000 people!

-Curtis Warren from MetroHealth System will visit CSC on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. to say thanks to CSC staff for helping him with his research project on software design to help people with visual impairments with their medications. MetroHealth has recently added the ScripTalk software into their mail order pharmacy and would like to educate CSC staff on this offering now available as an option for CSC clients. All staff are welcome to attend this presentation with supervisor approval.

### **What's Happening at CSC:**

-The Employment Services department's newly-hired Job Coaches Melody Dyer, Marissa Gilbert and Hugh Littleton had the experience of training under blindfold with Annette Jakse this week. Annette introduced and shared techniques with the Job Coaches that they can use in their new role. The Job Coaches learned not only about techniques to use with their clients but also the impact of sudden vision loss in doing everyday things. They learned to navigate safely, in a group and individually, how to orient themselves to place using furniture as a guide, how to prepare food, measure dry and wet ingredients, identify utensils, safely plug in an appliance into an electrical outlet, wash and dry dishes, clean up their area, peel and cut vegetables and garlic, make meatballs, boil water, heat up sauce and safely pour ingredients into a pot of boiling water. They were rewarded with their own dinner in the dark of pasta and salad with bread. The group shared how valuable this experience was in helping them understand their clients and how better to assist them in their job training. Thanks Annette for her instruction and the team for their participation.



Melody Dyer and Annette Jakse put noodles into a pot of boiling water



Annette Jakse and Hugh Littleton operate the food processor



Hugh Littleton and Marissa Gilbert peel and cut vegetables while blindfolded

-Throughout the last month, Cleveland Sight Center has welcomed many volunteers to support various projects and needs throughout the agency. A shout out and welcome to:

- Tom Belden – Golf
- Jane Pinkas – Radio Reading
- Edward Paul – Low Vision Clinic
- Regina Levine – Social Work Administration
- Barb Piascik – Golf
- Eric Piascik – Golf
- Tobie Zeller – Golf
- Mira Bojanic – Recreation
- Latoyia Dumas – Employment Administration
- Heaven Vincent – Recreation
- Santhi Majji – Assistive Technology Lab
- Jessie Pedigo – Radio Reading
- William Bishop – Golf
- Natalie Weida – Rehabilitation Administration

CSC is thrilled to welcome all volunteers to the CSC family!



Group photo of new CSC volunteers

-This week's Social Recreation activities featured new summertime fill-in volunteer Mira for Line Dance, then it was on to learning Crochet and then some new participants attended Game Day, playing the much loved "Left – Right – Center" game. Music Group was an orchestral success and the day's events ended with a relaxing Yoga class.

-Katie Daley hosted the fourth and final "Devising Healthy Communities Poetry Class" at CSC this week.

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

-The item of the week is a set of four silicone reusable placemats. These mats are heat resistant, provide great contrast, wipe clean and can be cut into other usable shapes depending on your personal need. Stop on down to check them out and for the price!



Reusable table placemats in red

### **Item of Note:**

-Voice Control is a great new Accessibility feature that makes it possible to control your iOS device with just your voice. Check out this article on how to use Voice Controls on iPhone and iPad. To read the article, [click here](#).