

Keeping You "In the Know..." 8/12/16

CSC Golf Classic is Monday!

 This year's CSC Golf Classic will be Monday, August 15th at Westfield Group Country Club. For the second straight year, this tremendous fundraising and awareness opportunity is the result of the Employment team's strong partnership with Westfield Group's human resources department. A few golf slots still remain! The cost to participate is \$250 per person and includes an 18-hole scramble format, greens fees, golf cart, boxed lunch, awards reception including hors d'oeuvres and beverages, golfer gifts, contests and prizes. Contact <u>Steve Frohwerk</u> (216-791-8118) for additional information or to register. Fore!

CSC to Host Open House for Associates of Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute:

 Cleveland Sight Center will host an open house at the agency for associates of Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute on Wednesday, September 7th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to learn more the services, programs, and opportunities to enhance the continuum of care for patients.

Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:

 A group from CSC including Mollie Evans, Steve Frohwerk, Desmond Kennedy, Kevin Krencisz, and Lindsay Lowe met with representatives of the Cleveland Clinic on Tuesday, August 9th at the <u>Cleveland Clinic's</u> <u>Langston Hughes Community Health and Education Facility</u>, located in Cleveland's Fairfax neighborhood. Going forward, the group will explore various opportunities to increase CSC's partnership with the Cleveland Clinic, including health education and health screenings, recreational opportunities, and opportunities to strengthen the referral process and continuum of care between the two organizations.

- Through the job development efforts of Carlton Toppin, members of the Employment Team met with Steve Dumek, Human Resource Manager for Aramark at FirstEnergy Stadium on Tuesday, August 9th. Aramark is responsible for staffing food services workers for a number of local sites including the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. The purpose of the meeting was to identify positions within the stadium that individuals who are blind or have low vision could perform. Steve was excited to learn about CSC and how the agency can help fill his hiring needs. Here we go Brownies!
- The annual "See What's Possible" workshop for teachers, educators, and those working with students who are blind or have low vision in the 2016-2017 school year was held Thursday, August 11th at CSC. The workshop had over 50 attendees and featured strategies, technology, and demonstrations.



Monica Owen presents to a group of educators

• With the advent of Windows 10, Office 365, Skype for Business, and other forward-thinking products, Microsoft has undertaken a new and exciting initiative to enhance accessibility across its product line. In doing so, it hopes to improve educational and employment outcomes

for individuals with various disabilities throughout the country and the world.

As part of this effort, Microsoft and The American Council Of The Blind has handpicked a small group of individuals to assist in improving the Narrator screen reader, which is built into the operating system, and which allows individuals who are blind or have low vision to use any Windows computer to perform tasks such as installing software, word processing, surfing the web, reading e-mail, and accessing spreadsheets.

CSC is excited to announce that Randy Knapp has been selected to serve on this team and will be part of this group of experts to assist in this endeavor. Randy will bring to bear his many years of experience as a Windows user, and through his input along with others in this select group, will have a positive and profound impact on the accessibility of Microsoft's products for individuals who are blind or have other disabilities throughout all walks of life. Please join us in congratulating Randy for the honor of being chosen for participation in such a worthwhile task, which so supports the mission at CSC.

It's been another busy week for the Community Engagement team. On Monday, Lisa Cellura and Kevin Krencisz hosted a guest of Board Trustee Bob Englander for a lunch and tour of the agency. Lisa Cellura presented "Blindness Basics" to a staff of 40 at the Gables of Hudson senior assisted living residences and Alicia Howerton met with Kristina Himes, a new counselor from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), who came to learn more about CSC on the recommendation of her co-workers at OOD. A second-year ophthalmological resident (Dr. Racheal) observed in the Low Vision Clinic on Wednesday and pleasantly surprised by CSC's vast services for those with vision loss of all ages. Alicia Howerton also hosted a tour for a couple from North Carolina on Thursday who was referred to CSC and they walked away with a better understanding and hope for life after blindness, even for family members. Lisa Cellura showed the agency to Jon Asbornson from Hawken School on Thursday and discussed ways to further engage the students at Hawken School

through experiential learning. To close out the week, Lisa Cellura provides a tour and orientation to CSC for a staff member at Cole Eye Institute on Friday.

Another Successful Camp Season at Highbrook Lodge:

- The last session of camp this year at Highbrook Lodge was "Fit & Fabulous," planned and implemented by CSC's Recreation Therapy Intern Shelby Rieger. The session provided low-impact recreation and leisure activities for adults ages of 40-60 with vision loss. The program was designed to increase exploration of leisure activities appropriate for their age demographic in which participants can pursue within their own community. Activities for this session included music and drama drum circle, a nature walk, canvas painting, horticulture hanging planters, yoga, water aerobics, bowling, archery, relaxation/guided imagery, and leisure education. Additionally, guest speakers and presenters included a yoga instructor and volunteers from the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, including CSC's own Lisa Cellura, to implement a Bat Program teaching the campers about bats of Ohio and locating bats utilizing a bat detector. At the conclusion of the program campers attended the end of the year Family & Friends BBQ visiting with CSC staff and friends.
- Check out this feedback from one of the attendees of the "Fit & Fabulous" session:
 - "...I wanted to take an opportunity to let you know how great the weekend went. Your staff was amazing. They were friendly and helpful. Someone was always available to direct or guide you. Shelby did an awesome job setting up the activities. There was something for everyone. Please let your staff and Shelby know how much I appreciated all the hard work that went in to bringing this weekend together. I am hoping we can do this again next year."

Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

 Talking Watch: This talking watch has a modern look with feminine details. We love its graceful shape and pretty rose and pearl colors, but this talking watch is functional, too! Its extra-large digital numbers are easy on the eyes, and it speaks the time and date in a clear voice. Four alarms for multiple reminders and special alerts and a stopwatch function which is easy to start and stop. The band (a pearly opaque buckling band) and pink and pearl case are made of plastic. Cost is \$20.00.



Talking watch with white band and rose border around watch face

Calling All Artists:

 Are you or do you know an artist who has blindness or low vision? Submissions are now being accepted for artwork to be on the cover of some of CSC's 2016 Holiday Cards! Please submit entries to Barbara Piascik in the Eyedea Shop by September 1st, 2016. Entries will be presented to a selection committee and are limited to two (2) per artist. If original artwork is not submitted, high resolution images of the artwork will be accepted. Artwork that is selected for Holiday Cards will be displayed in the Eyedea Shop and in the main lobby at CSC with the option to be sold. Interested buyers will be directed to the artist. Artwork that is not selected will be returned to artist.

Congratulations, You're Awesome!

- Congratulations to Sherry Raymont, winner of the Random Acts of Awesome Award, who was nominated by Jim Hlavaty. Congrats to all who were nominated for this award, including these semifinalists:
 -Debra Ball, nominated by Paula Winter
 - -Jennifer Dean, nominated by Tina Pringpuangkeo
 - -Amy Mullen, nominated by Bill Spiker
 - -Ted Sanders, nominated by Chris Gruber
 - -Phyllis Solomon, nominated by Scott Malone



Larry Benders and Sherry Raymont

Items of Note:

 For the hot, hazy month of August, Job Club will focus on the hot and often hazy topic of Social Security benefits. Please join the team on Thursday, August 18th from 10:00-11:30 AM in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium as Job Club welcomes Jasmine Chandler, Area V Social Security Area Work Incentives Coordinator. Ms. Chandler will explain SSI and SSDI benefits, discuss working while disabled, and provide advice regarding reporting of income. Bring questions to cool your confusions. For more information about Job Club, contact Nicole Kahn (216-791-8118).

- Bright Futures Preschool begins Monday, August 29th. CSC is still accepting enrollment. Contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) for more information.
- Spellbound, CSC's annual fundraising gala, celebrates 30 years in 2016! Save the date for this year's fundraiser, Saturday, September 24th at Landerhaven in Mayfield Heights. This year's theme is "Looking Back, Seeing the Future" and part of the evening will highlight CSC's Early Intervention program. Event invitations are now available! Contact <u>Steve Frohwerk</u> (216-791-8118) for additional information.

Did You Know?

 August 13th is National Left Handers Day. Some famous lefties include: Barack Obama, Oprah Winfrey, Tom Cruise, Steve Forbes, Morgan Freeman, and Paul McCartney. <u>Click here</u> for more on Left Handers Day.