



## Keeping You “In the Know...” 8/4/17

### CSC's Call Center Begins New Statewide Central Intake and Referral System:

- On August 1<sup>st</sup>, Cleveland Sight Center became the state of Ohio's central intake and registration service provider for the “Help Me Grow” program offered by the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Earlier this year, the state of Ohio issued a request for proposal asking for bids to provide an important service to families with newborn babies with a developmental disability who are in search of a service within Ohio. CSC won this competitive bid process by offering an innovative model for matching up the needs of parents with appropriate service providers throughout the state. CSC's state-of-the-art Call Center will provide a centralized service for initial inquiries then refer parents to a service provider in their area. CSC's \$2.7 million proposal will cost the state 50% less than previous programs and will provide excellent service to Ohioans across the state in an efficient way. “We are thrilled that Cleveland Sight Center has won this competitive bid to provide this important service to new parents across the state. Once again, our Call Center agents have demonstrated that they are efficient, effective and empathetic as they serve the needs of clients”, said Larry Benders, Cleveland Sight Center President.

### Spellbound is Friday, September 15:

- CSC's annual fundraising gala, Spellbound, is scheduled for Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Landerhaven. This year's event is “An Evening to Empower” and will feature Author & Speaker Michael Hingson as well as raise important funds for CSC's Empowerment Fund. Michael

Hingson, blind since birth, escaped the World Trade Center on 9/11 with his guide dog, Roselle. From the day he received his first guide dog at age 14, Michael has developed skills in leadership, trust, teamwork, adaptation – skills he passes on to readers and listeners. For more information on Michael, [click here](#). Event invitations will be mailed in the next week. If you have interest in attending, please contact Steve Frohwerk (216-791-8118) for more information on the event.

### What's Happening at CSC:

- Desmond Kennedy visited with the Eye Care Clinic at MetroHealth's main campus on Monday and North Coast Eye Surgery center in Middleburg Heights on Tuesday. Susie Meles presented the "Aging Eye" program at the Mandel Jewish Community Center in Beachwood on Tuesday. Lisa Cellura, Alicia Howerton and Nicole Kahn represented CSC at a Westfield Insurance employee wellness and diversity initiative on Wednesday. Desmond Kennedy had appointments with Northeast Ohio Eye Surgeons in Stow on Thursday and Union Eye Care in Parma on Friday to close out the week.



Alicia Howerton assists as a Westfield employee uses a liquid level indicator

- CYAS hosted an ice cream social on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> for area families who have a child with a vision impairment. Participants and

family members enjoyed ice cream treats, playground time in the Empowerment Park and story time with the Cleveland Public Library. The afternoon also provided an opportunity for attendees to talk with CSC staff and meet other families who receive services from the CYAS team.



Youngster plays in the sandbox



Youngster rides the toy tractor



Attendee applies glue to complete her craft



Participants enjoy story time

- Participants in the Career Exploration program are holding a Bake Sale today, Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hub areas. Stop by with your spare change and get some tasty treats! The six students in the program have had three weeks full of activities, volunteerism, shadowing and learning. Recent off campus



trips included the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Ohio Media School, West Side Market, Highbrook Lodge and Notre Dame College. Thank you to those who supported their car wash on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>...it was a smashing success!



Students dry a newly-washed car



Group photo at Ohio Media School



Participant tries to catch a butterfly



Student plays the drums at Highbrook Lodge

- ABC's Day Camp wrapped up this week with eight happy campers who had a great experience! Thank you to lead teacher Abby Schwartz and all the CYAS staff for a terrific three-week session.



Youngsters enjoy the teeter totter

- The Children & Young Adult Services department was fortunate to have nearly 1,000 hours of intern time this summer to support the department's four programs! Ohio State University interns John Bertram, Rebecca Cornell and Brenda Lammers completed hours toward their COMS licensure (Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist). Whitney Bryant assisted with both day camps and Career Exploration to accumulate hours toward her internship from Notre Dame College. All four were amazing and such an asset to our 2017 summer!
- Join the Highbrook Lodge team on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. for the annual Friends & Family BBQ. This is a great way to wrap up the summer and see the beautiful 60+ acre Cleveland Sight Center camp facility located in Chardon.

Who: The event is open to **all** – friends, clients, Board Trustees, staff and fans of Cleveland Sight Center and Highbrook Lodge

What: A summer BBQ complete with comradery, outdoor games, tours, s'mores and more!

Where: Highbrook Lodge summer camp located at 12944 Aquilla Road in Chardon, Ohio 44024

When: Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

A \$5.00 donation per person is requested for those who join in the BBQ lunch, which can be paid prior at the Eyedea Shop or the day of at Highbrook Lodge (cash and checks only day of). Questions? Call/email the Camp team at 216-791-8118 or [camp@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:camp@clevelandsightcenter.org).

- The annual “See What’s Possible” educators workshop will be held at Cleveland Sight Center on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. The workshop is for educators (regular, special and support staff) who will be working with children with limited/no vision during the 2017-2018 school year and will feature strategies, technology and demonstrations. The registration fee is \$25 and includes lunch, materials and professional development certificate. For more information, contact Lorie Marsalis (216-791-8118) or [click here](#).
- CYAS hosts an afternoon at CSC for those “tweens” ages 9 – 13 to enjoy pizza, ice cream sodas, game day and an opportunity to meet other area kids on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium. For more information on this invite-only event, contact Kristen Callahan (216-791-8118).

### **Eyedea Shop’s Featured Product of the Week: Braille Stone Keychains**

- New Braille Stone Keychains have arrived in the Eyedea Shop. They are available in several different sentiments, including “faith,” “hope,” “love,” “dream” and “create.” Each in a different color. They make a nice little gift for anyone “just because.” Each is priced at \$ 7.00.





Braille stone keychains with black pouches

- If you are an artist who is blind or has low vision, consider submitting your artwork to grace the cover of some of the 2017 Holiday Cards. The requirements for this year's cards are as follows: artist must be blind or have low vision; two submissions per artist; if submitting in digital format, artwork must be 300 DPI, entry window is July 1, 2017 – August 14, 2017; submit entries to [bpiascik@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:bpiascik@clevelandsightcenter.org). Cleveland-themed entries always do well. Any questions, please contact the Eyedea Shop (216-791-8118).
- 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:

- As part of University Circle Inc.'s strategic planning process, they are looking for direct feedback from representatives of stakeholder organizations including guests, visitors, members, patients, students,

employees, etc. A brief survey has been created to gather input. [Click here for the survey.](#)

- Walk your dog with the American Council of the Blind Cleveland Chapter at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog-a-Thon on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at Cleveland State University (CSU). The two-mile course begins at East 21<sup>st</sup> and Euclid Avenue and proceeds to Public Square then back to CSU. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. and the step-off is at 9:00 a.m. The \$5 registration fee is waived when participants collect at least \$5 in pledges. Proceeds help purchase important adaptive equipment that enables children who are blind or visually impaired to work, play and learn independently. For more information, call 216-905-4674.
- Join Small Steps! Small Steps is a free event for individuals with vision loss or other physical challenges that meets every Tuesday between 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Tri-C Metro track. Get some exercise while not having to worry about walking alone! To learn more or sign up, contact Ken Howard at 440-539-6464 or [lynnyrdallman@aol.com](mailto:lynnyrdallman@aol.com). Assistance is available for persons with disabilities.
- Canada's most high-profile organization supporting people with vision loss is turning to technology in a bid to create what it calls the country's most accessible neighborhood. The CNIB — formerly known as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind — says it's hoping to transform a small midtown stretch of Yonge St. into an area that blind or low-vision people can navigate easily, and also fully engage with independently. The organization has partnered with the Rick Hansen Foundation to acquire beacons that will help blind people locate businesses on the street, then find their way around inside with confidence. The foundation has funded the purchase of 205 of the roughly 14-centimeter beacons that stores and restaurants in the test area can acquire free and program to convey detailed information about the layout of their physical space to a blind person's mobile phone. [Click here for the full article.](#)



## Did You Know?

- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar bill.