



## Keeping You “In the Know...” 9/22/17

### Spellbound Raises \$270,000!

- Spellbound, CSC’s annual fundraising gala, celebrated its 31<sup>st</sup> event on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Landerhaven in Mayfield Heights. This year’s theme was “An Evening to Empower” and featured keynote speaker Michael Hingson and a fund-a-need for CSC’s Empowerment Fund. The ballroom was electrified with a spirit of giving, celebration, and a sense of real impact on the needs of CSC’s clients who receive difference-making devices through the Empowerment Fund. Thus far, through many wonderful gifts, Spellbound has raised \$270,000...**thank you for your support!**

Upon arrival at Landerhaven, guests enjoyed cocktails and hors d’oeuvres during the reception in the atrium and rotunda, which featured a photo booth and silent auction with 25 great items to bid on. Attendees then were seated for dinner in the grand ballroom. The program began with Board Chair Sheryl King Benford welcoming all guests and thanking the evening’s committee, sponsors, board trustees, staff and clients. After dinner, the program resumed with a live auction featuring items including tickets to ride the Goodyear Blimp Airship, behind-the-scenes tour of the vault and archives at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and The Chef’s Table at Dante Restaurant in Tremont. The evening’s featured speaker, Michael Hingson, then spoke about his story of teamwork, adaptation and empowerment, his experiences on 9/11 and what blindness means to him. After he finished, donors generously raised their paddles to support CSC’s Empowerment Fund. The evening concluded with dancing and great music from The Chosen Few Band.

Many thanks to the Spellbound Committee for their commitment and hard work in preparation of this year’s event: Board Trustee and Event

Chair Sara Parish, Board Trustee Mary Bookman, Board Trustee Susan Harnden, Board Trustee Lynn Heiligenthal-Showalter and Board Trustee Erin Ploucha. Thanks to all staff members that had a part in the planning of the event and those who worked that evening to make it such an inspirational night. Thanks to Cathy Javorsky and Alicia Howerton for putting together the gifts for each attendee, which included a package of greeting cards featuring artwork and photography made or taken by artists with low vision and a CSC-branded pen.



Larry Benders, Michael Hingson, Desmond Kennedy and Alicia Howerton



Board Chair Sheryl King Benford welcomes the attendees to Spellbound



Wine basket in the silent auction



Students from Case for Sight



Larry Benders speaks about the Empowerment Fund      Michael Hingson introduces his guide dog Africa



The Chosen Few Band performs

## Strengthening Partnerships:

- CSC staff members working on the Help Me Grow campaign met with representatives from the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities this week to review the program and conduct additional training sessions about the program.





CSC team members with representatives from Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities in the front lobby

- Members of the CSC team had multiple community engagements this week to tell the CSC story and showcase the agency's programs and services. On Saturday, Desmond Kennedy hosted an information table at the Geauga County Public Library's event featuring Spellbound speaker Michael Hingson. Sylvia Snyder spoke at Lakewood Kiwanis golf outing and was joined by Karen Hiller to thank the Kiwanis clubs for their support of CSC. Desmond Kennedy represented the agency at the Buckeye Health Plan - Cuyahoga County Agency Meeting at Fatima Family Center on Tuesday and met with the National Caucus on Black Aging on Wednesday. Lisa Cellura presented the "Blindness Basics" program to a group of students from Beaumont School who were at the agency for a service-learning day on Wednesday. Lisa concludes the week by speaking about CSC and the "clock method" to participants at Friday's "Dinner in the Dark" event on the campus of Case Western Reserve University.
- The Cleveland Playhouse will put on an accessible performance of *Shakespeare in Love* on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, complete with audio description, a pre-show lecture and discounted tickets for individuals with vision loss. If you are interested in purchasing these tickets, please contact Lisa Gallowitz at 216-400-7096 or [lgallowitz@clevelandplayhouse.com](mailto:lgallowitz@clevelandplayhouse.com).
- Marjorie Pyles-Hearst is being awarded the Ohio Association for Adult and Continuing Education (OAAACE) Sharon Davis-Stubbe Award for

Outstanding Northeast Region of Ohio Instructor for 2017. Each year OAACE presents different awards in honor of Sharon Davis-Stubbe, who was a longtime supporter of adult and continuing education within the state of Ohio. These awards include an outstanding teacher, administrator, support staff and contributor. Marjorie will be honored on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Congrats, Marjorie!

### What's Happening at CSC:

- Thanks to Board Trustee Fred Jones for bringing a group to CSC on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup> for a tour, lunch and to learn more about the agency.
- Applying for jobs can be stressful – CSC's Job Club wants to help! Join their next meeting at CSC on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium as Lindsay Svarovsky and Mollie Evans from CSC's Therapeutic Recreation team discuss signs of stress and offer tips, strategies and resources on how to manage personal or work-related stress. Contact Nicole Kahn (216-791-8118) for additional information.
- CSC welcomes Charles Palmer from Low Vision Aids, Inc. to the agency on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> to demonstrate the Patriot Voice Plus, a standalone scanning device which integrates high quality, accurate, text to speech in a compact design easily moved around the home or office. The Patriot Voice Plus is Wi-Fi enabled for internet voice searches. The demonstration is open to staff, clients, customers and outside eye care professionals and will be from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Tom Sawyer (216-791-8118).

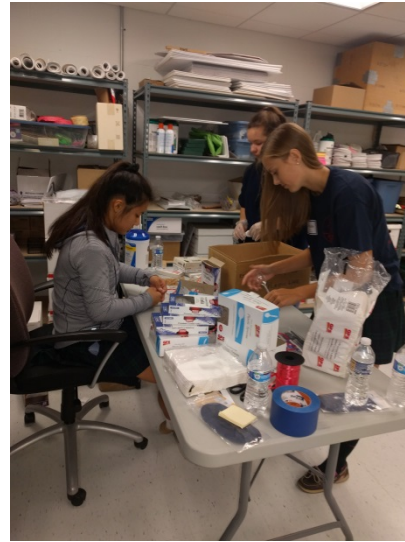
### Volunteers Making a Difference!

- A group of students from Beaumont School volunteered at CSC on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, learning about the agency and helping organize and rearrange the Development and Marketing storage room

in the lower level. The group moved inventory, did some cleaning, and helped with labeling to make the storage room more accessible. Thanks to the Beaumont crew for their initiative and organization!



Beaumont School group in CSC lobby



Students sort and wrap plastic ware

- Entering into his fourth year as a volunteer with CSC, Fred Gass is putting his former career as a math professor to great use in the Adult Literacy classroom at CSC. A program that connects with 15 students to teach literacy, problem solving, English, math and more, Adult Literacy meets students where they are and helps them progress towards individual academic goals. Throughout the year, students take tests, each increasing in difficulty to prepare them for the GED®. Fred is one of 13 volunteers who work 1-to-1 with students to challenge them and teach them new and creative ways to solve problems. Since beginning as a volunteer with CSC in 2014, Fred has donated over 325 hours to the agency, a value of about \$1,961 per year! In addition to his role supporting students during class time, Fred also values building relationships with students outside of the classroom. Often times after class, Fred sits with Lillian, a 95-year-old Adult Literacy student, keeping her company as she waits for her ride. “Fred takes time with me every day,” Lillian explains. “My favorite part about working with him is working on math. He talks softly, and gives me such a good feeling!”

Fred was drawn to work with Cleveland Sight Center after moving to

Cleveland from Cincinnati in support of his wife's medical career. With the Cleveland Sight Center community being one of the communities he met in the beginning stages of his life in Cleveland, Fred says that it is the CSC community that stands out to him the most. "I only knew two people when I moved here," Fred explained. Now, Fred has a collection of five White Cane Walk t-shirts, and an even greater collection of CSC memories he enjoys! If you see Fred around the agency or in the Adult Literacy classroom, be sure to say "hi!"



Volunteer Fred works with a student in the classroom

- CSC's own Share the Vision Volunteer Linda Jenkins will be receiving a "Most Treasured Volunteer" award at the Center for Community Solutions "Celebration of Human Services" event on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Linda is one of five area residents who have been selected to receive this award. [Click here](#) to learn more about Linda and other winners of the Most Treasured Volunteer Awards this year. To support Linda by attending the luncheon or with any questions, contact Melissa Bresnahan in Volunteer Services at [mbresnahan@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:mbresnahan@clevelandsightcenter.org) or 216-791-8118.

### Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week: Holiday Cards

- The 2017 Holiday Cards selection is now available! Check out this year's offerings which include pieces titled "Holiday Magic," "Southern Holiday," "Winter's Rest" and many more! [Click here for the online Holiday Cards page](#) and make your selections...or call the store at 216-791-8118 to place your order today!

- 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:

- From Prevent Blindness Ohio: National Falls Prevention Awareness Day is today, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The goal is to bring attention to this serious issue which is the leading cause of injury-related hospitalization and death among Ohioans age 65 and older. An older Ohioan falls every two minutes on the average, resulting in an injury every five minutes, six emergency department visits and one hospitalization each hour, and three deaths each day. The number of fatal falls among older Ohioans has increased more than 167 percent since 2000. Unfortunately, those with impaired vision are more likely to experience falls and injuries. According to a 2016 study by the Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC), 52% of Ohio adults age 65 or older with severe vision impairment fell at least once in 2014 as compared with 28% of those without severe vision impairment. Visual impairment, which can include decreased visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, depth perception, and/or visual field, has been found to influence the risk of falls. Vision impairment can affect balance. It also increases the risk of tripping or misjudging steps, stairs or curbs.
- Television viewers in the United Kingdom (UK) will have the opportunity to experience what their sight would be like with various eye conditions on Monday night when Channel 4 airs a unique advertising break. The broadcaster will show five commercials that will have different visual filters applied to them so the viewer can understand how their eyes would be affected by the most common eye conditions in the UK. The conditions that will be demonstrated are macular degeneration, which affects the central part of a person's vision; cataracts, which causes cloudy or misty sight; diabetes, which can damage blood vessels at the back of the eyes; hemianopia, where



a person loses half of their vision, and glaucoma, which damages the optic nerve. To read the full article, [click here](#).

- Smart traffic signals that are designed to improve the flow of traffic also could help pedestrians with visual or other disabilities safely cross streets...or even catch a bus. Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute have begun a two-year project, sponsored in large part by a \$2 million grant from the Federal Highway Administration, to develop a system that relays information from a user's smartphone directly to the smart traffic signals. The signals could adjust their timing to accommodate users who need extra time to cross. [Click here for the full article](#).
- CSC Board Trustee Dr. Suber Huang provided details on the upcoming world premiere of Seven Years of Darkness, an award winning short film telling the story of Dr. Anthony Easley's emotional and courageous journey from sight to blindness to sight again. Dr. Huang was Anthony Easley's surgeon and will discuss the film and other medical innovative breakthroughs for patients with vision loss.

The event is scheduled for Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is a 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. show. The event will be held at Canterbury Country Club, 22000 South Woodland Road, Beachwood, OH 44122. Tickets can be purchased (\$25.00 donation benefiting the Future Vision Foundation) via RSVP:

Petra Vanderlinden, Executive VP

[Pvl.fvf@gmail.com](mailto:Pvl.fvf@gmail.com)

Send checks to:

Future Vision Foundation

1611 South Green Road, Suite 230

Cleveland, OH 44121-4134

This is a business casual attire event.

- Did you know those grocery store trips can help raise funds for Cleveland Sight Center? CSC's Bright Futures Preschool is a part of Giant Eagle, Inc.'s "Apples for the Students" program! Points are collected based on eligible purchases and will credit Bright Futures Preschool quarterly with the points earned. Register your Advantage Card today to support our preschoolers! Easy to follow instructions are:
  1. Register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card at [GiantEagle.com/AFTS](http://GiantEagle.com/AFTS)
  2. Enter our School ID # 5788
  3. Shop with your Giant Eagle Advantage Card.Each time your Giant Eagle Advantage Card is scanned, through March 16, 2018, your purchase automatically earns funds used to obtain our overall educational needs. This does not affect any other program offered by Giant Eagle – including fuelperks.
- Attention Heinen's Shoppers! As a member of Heinen's Tasteful Rewards™ Program, when you shop at Heinen's you can help CSC's Bright Futures Preschool through their school donation program. Up to 1% of your qualified purchases during the school year will be donated annually by Heinen's to a local school of your choice. The Teaming Up for Education Program is a Heinen's Tasteful Rewards™ membership benefit. Enrollment with your email address is required.

Members of the Tasteful Rewards Program are required to **RE-SELECT** their school every year. Please select "Cleveland Sight Center" from the list.

To select a school you have three choices:

- Simply log into your Tasteful Rewards account with your registered email address and password, select 'My School' from the left-hand menu and select your school of choice.
- Select your school of choice at any Heinen's Store Location - Customer Service Booth.
- Call the Customer Relations department at 1-855-475-2300 ext. 2337.

## Did You Know?

- Today marks the autumnal equinox...also known as the first day of fall. Specifically, the Northern Hemisphere marks the autumnal equinox this afternoon at 4:02 p.m. The Autumnal equinox – also called the September equinox – is the astronomical start of fall in the Northern Hemisphere and spring in the Southern Hemisphere. The word *equinox* comes from the Latin *aequus* (equal) and *nox* (night). During the equinox, the sun crosses what we call the “celestial equator” (just imagine the line that marks the equator on Earth extending up into the sky) from north to south. Earth’s two hemispheres are receiving the sun’s rays about equally. The sun is overhead at noon as seen from the equator. At this point, the amount of nighttime and daytime (sunlight) are roughly equal to each other.