



Keeping you “In the Know...” 10/23/15

Strengthening Partnerships:

- Michael Dagon and Gail Wernick from the American Red Cross visited CSC on Tuesday, October 20th. The guests were hosted by [Greg McGrath](#) and Board Trustee [Frann Zverina](#) for a tour and discussion on ways the two organizations can collaborate.
- CSC’s [Employment Department](#) participated in its fifth annual Supported Employment / Individual Placement and Support Fidelity Review this week. Nicole Clevenger, MSSA, Jennifer Collins-Lakner, PhD, LMFT, and Deb Hrouda, PhD, MSSA, LISW-S from Case Western Reserve University’s Center for Evidence Based Practices visited the agency on Tuesday, October 20th to observe staff meetings, interview clients and meet with key stakeholders including Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities counselors Ledell S. McIntyre Jr. and Jessica McKee, MS, NCC. Similar to CSC’s CARF accreditation, the goal of the Fidelity Review is to ensure that the agency is following best practices to serve clients and stakeholders. Thank you to all who contributed!

Engaging the Community and Increasing CSC’s Reach:

- CSC has recently connected with three of the largest Cleveland area foundations. Leaders from [Deaconess Foundation](#) and [Mt. Sinai Foundation](#) visited the agency for tours and to discuss possible grant opportunities with [Larry Benders](#) and [Bill Spiker](#). CSC Board Trustee [Doug Piper](#) joined [Larry](#) and [Bill](#) at a recent meeting with [The Cleveland Foundation](#) leaders Ronn Richard (President and CEO),

Bob Eckardt (Executive Vice President) and Kathleen Hallissey (Director of Community Responsive Grantmaking).

- Members of the [Board of Trustees](#) continue to share their resources and professional and personal networks with the agency. On Tuesday, October 20th, Board Trustee [Andy Sikorovsky](#) stopped by CSC and introduced a friend to the agency which included a talk and tour with [Lisa Cellura](#). Along the same lines, Board Trustee [Fred Jones](#) visited the agency with some friends and Board Trustee [Wally Anders](#) brought a group of four from PNC Bank to the agency on Wednesday, October 21st.
- [Susie Meles](#) recently participated as one of three keynote panel presenters at the Cuyahoga County Conference on Aging held October 9th in Independence. Over 250 professionals were in attendance and the theme was “Disability and Aging in the 21st Century: Challenges and Opportunities”. Other panelists included Catherine Rush, Chief Vocational Officer from the Help Foundation and Laurie Steiner Esq., Certified Elder Law Attorney with Solomon, Stein and Peck.
- On the [Community Engagement](#) front, [Cathy Javorsky](#) and [Lisa Cellura](#) presented to two 2nd grade classes at St. Mary School in Mentor on Tuesday, October 20th during the school’s disability awareness week. [Lisa](#) presented the “[Aging Eye](#)” program to Warrensville Community Apartments in Cleveland Heights on Wednesday.

Volunteers Make a Difference:

- A group of 20 volunteers from Cleveland Clinic spent the day painting the curbs, landscaping, and scraping, painting and cleaning out the storage garage on CSC’s property on Tuesday, October 20th.



Volunteers paint the east side of the garage Ave.



Volunteers clean the sidewalk along Chester

Crain's Cleveland Recognizes CSC:

- Congratulations to [Kevin Krencisz](#) who was recognized at Thursday evening's CFO of the Year event hosted by Crain's Cleveland Business. The event was hosted at the Global Center for Health Innovation. [Click here](#) for an article that showcases [Kevin's](#) contributions to CSC.

Bright Futures Preschool Visits the Library:

- CSC's preschoolers visited the East 107th Street branch of the Cleveland Public Library on Monday, October 19th. The group enjoyed books during story time, playing games and toys and singing songs.



Preschoolers and staff walk to the library



Preschoolers listen to a story from librarian



Preschoolers pay attention to a story



Two preschool girls push a shopping cart

- A reminder the youngsters will trick-or-treat through the halls of CSC on Thursday, October 29th. Have those goodies ready around 10:00am.
- As part of an ongoing project of the Lions Club, please bring in any empty medicine bottles to be sent to Malawi. Empty bottles may be given to either [Cathy Javorsky](#) or [Sylvia Snyder](#).



Fall Recreation Activities in Full Swing:

- The [Recreation](#) team hosted their end-of-season [Sailing Banquet](#) on Thursday, October 22nd. Over 50 attended as another exciting sailing season comes to a close.
- Save the dates for these fun festivities at [Highbrook Lodge](#), for more information [click here](#):
 - [Holiday at Highbrook](#): Friday, December 11th, 2015
 - [Winter Weekend](#): Friday, February 26th, 2016 – Sunday, February 28th, 2016

To view the calendar of events, visit CSC's website [here](#).

Tis the Season:

- Holiday Cards are now for sale on the [Eyedea Shop](#) website! [Click here](#) to preview this year's selection and get your orders in today. Some cards feature the artwork of friend of CSC Owen McCafferty and include his paintings "Angels", "Two Birds" and "Winter Path".
- The holiday and giving season is not far away! For all you online shoppers, remember **CSC** is a participating charity of [AmazonSmile](#), where online retailer [Amazon](#) donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations selected by the customer. **CSC** is listed as **Cleveland Society For The Blind** by AmazonSmile. Visit the [website here](#) and pass along to family and friends to select Cleveland Society For The Blind as the recipient of a donation on your next AmazonSmile purchase!

CARF Corner:

- **Questions Surveyors Frequently Ask:**
The following gives examples of questions that are frequently asked by surveyors during interviews with staff. Would **you** be able to answer

the questions if asked by a surveyor? (If not, please discuss with your supervisor.)

Administrative and Management Staff:

How do you handle confidential records? What are the requirements?

Direct Service Staff:

How has the organization improved?

All Staff:

What is your mission?

Items of Note:

- Thanks to [Chris Gruber](#), [Scott Malone](#) and the [Facilities](#) team for keeping the grounds safe, clean and beautiful as the leaves begin to fall.
- Time magazine recently published a feature on three cutting edge cures for blindness, one of which is the Argus II. [Click here](#) for more and you may recognize a CSC staff member in the video.
- A hiker who is blind recently completed the Inca Trail with his hiking team in less than a day. The trail hike, which crosses through three mountain passes on the way to the ancient ruins of Machu Picchu typically, takes most people about four days. [Click here](#) for the full article.