

Keeping you “In the Know...” 8/21/15

CSC’s Golf Classic is a HIT!!!

- The CSC [Golf Classic](#) at [Westfield Group Country Club](#) on Monday, August 17th was a fantastic day for the agency! Participants from CSC’s [Golf Program](#) played in the round along with CSC Board Trustees, friends of CSC and leaders from Westfield Group. It was a great opportunity to establish partnerships, enhance existing ones and tell the CSC story. Thanks go out to all staff who participated in the day’s activities as well as the following Board Trustees for their attendance at this first-time event: Board Chair [Tom Furnas](#), [Bob Englander](#), [Fred Jones](#), [Howard Lichtig](#), [John O’Brien](#), [Sara Parish](#), [Gary Poth](#), [Bill Spring](#), [Alex Taylor](#), [Steve Willensky](#) and [Frann Zverina](#) for their support and attendance at this first-time event.



Lisa Cellura with Westfield reps at the CSC info table



Golfers in their golf carts ready to head to the holes



Board Trustee John O'Brien tries a putt while blindfolded



Golf Program participants line up a putt



CSC staff members with Westfield reps on hole #8



CSC logo and sign next to hole #11 sign



Golf program participant and coach line up the shot



John Naples starts his tee shot on hole #1

Argus II Update:

- The CSC team of [Dr. Lidija Balciunas](#), [Dr. Anna Lisa Katz](#), [Erin St. Denis](#), [Keith Filip](#) and [Scott Williams-Riseng](#) continues to meet with our first Argus II patient as the rehabilitation process moves along. CSC is critical in the process through education and vision rehabilitation after the device has been planted with the agency's role being tri-fold: we are integral in research for the manufacturer of the device; we provide device effectiveness and feedback to the implant surgeons; we work to optimize the functional outcomes for the patient. The following quote is from the Argus II patient as he continues to apply everything he is learning, "I'm becoming more comfortable walking down the street. I'm able to pick up curves in the sidewalk and am able to correct my veering." This is truly impactful and speaks volumes to the work our agency does in working to fulfill our mission to empower people with vision loss to realize their full potential and to shape the community's vision of that potential.

Strengthening Partnerships:

- [Alexis Vinick](#), [Jassen Tawil](#) and [Joel Zureick](#) presented updated outcomes and information about CSC services to Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Counselors and other staff members of Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities' Lakewood offices on Wednesday, August 19th. [Alexis](#) presented updated outcome data of our evidence-based [Supported Employment/Individualized Placement and Support \(SE/IPS\) program](#), reporting that the [SE/IPS program](#) helped 43 clients obtain employment from October 1, 2014, the beginning of CSC's current fiscal year. Of those, 34 (79%) have been employed for more than 90 days. [Jassen](#) reported that the [Customer Service Fundamental program](#) is now in its 7th year and has helped 120 clients gain employment during that time. He also reviewed the curriculum of the [Computer Fundamentals training program](#). [Joel](#) provided updated information about the [Vocational Testing services](#) offered by CSC and answered many questions from OOD staff members. The team has received very favorable feedback from VR Counselors about the presentation.

Engaging our Community:

- It's been another busy week on the [Community Engagement](#) schedule. On Monday, August 17th, all hands were on deck for the CSC [Golf Classic](#). Wednesday, August 19th was the busiest day of the week, as [Megan Koeth](#) met with members of Phi Delta Epsilon about volunteering in CSC's [Preschool Vision Screening program](#). Also, [Tom Sawyer](#), [Ralph Johnson](#), [Megan Koeth](#) and volunteer Mike Musgrave staffed the Senior Safari at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, an event that drew over 1,000 people. Finally, Case Western Reserve University medical student Mark Biro visited CSC to demonstrate his hands-on accessible model of the function of the eye. He hopes to donate one to CSC to teach clients how their vision works and what goes wrong. Stay tuned for more details as things progress! On Thursday, August 20th, a group of 30 volunteers from Eaton Corporation's retirees volunteered to prepare the gifts distributed to guests attending [Spellbound](#) on Saturday, September 26th at The Silver Grille at The Higbee Building.



Volunteer wraps ribbon around the gift bag



A table full of wrapped Spellbound gifts

Update on the Recreation Front:

- CSC's rowing group, [Team V.I.P.E.R.](#) (Visually Impaired Persons Enjoying Rowing) will complete their season on Saturday, August 22nd

with the Western Reserve Rowing Association Regatta (WRRRA). The regatta is held at 1003 British Street, Cleveland, OH 44113 and the CSC team will compete at 11:00am. All are welcome to attend and support [Team V.I.P.E.R.!!!](#) We thank WRRRA, all their volunteers and salute our dedicated rowers for this successful inaugural season. We look forward to growing this program in 2016!

- Volunteers of CSC's [Sailing Program](#) will hold their mid-season volunteer meeting on Saturday, August 22nd in the [Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium](#) at CSC from 10:00am – 12:00pm.
- The summer camp sessions have ended but [Highbrook Lodge](#) continues to welcome guests throughout the year. Next week Gross Schecter School will enjoy the sights and sounds of [Highbrook Lodge](#).
- Heads up: Beginning the week of Monday, August 31st clients will be returning to [Recreation Department](#) activities scheduled here in the building. The activities will increase during the month of September as we transition from our outdoor community summer activities to our center-based activities for fall, winter and spring. Be on the lookout for sign-ups and refer clients to the [Recreation programs](#).

CARF Corner:

- **Evidence of Accessibility planning.** CARF surveyors make ask to review evidence of accessibility planning in minutes of meetings where analysis, action planning and goals are established; minutes of focus groups and council meetings; community events in which the organization participates; surveys and affirmative action plans and in building or remodeling plans, for example.

Items of Note:

- Congratulations to [Barbara Piascik](#) on her promotion to Retail Manager! In her new role, she will have expanded responsibilities in

the [Eyedea Shop](#) as well as online sales. [Jackie Bumba](#), [Regina Dorfmeier](#) and [Tom Sawyer](#) will report to [Barb](#). The [Eyedea Shop](#) team has achieved growth year after year. What once started as a few magnifiers in a desk drawer has grown to CSC's largest client-facing program with customers in nearly every state of the USA!

- AFB Press is pleased to announce the release of a new and critical resource for teachers of students who are visually impaired.

Reading Connections: Strategies for Teaching Students with Visual Impairments is a hands-on guide for teachers and professionals working to improve the reading skills of their students. It helps them put together the essential components of reading – phonemic awareness, phonics, reading fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension – and provides targeted teaching strategies for each component. ***Reading Connections*** addresses the needs of students who read print, braille, or both and is consistent with methods for teaching reading to students who have, or are at risk for, developing reading disabilities.

Reading Connections helps teachers:

- Assess individual student reading performance
- Create a balanced plan of reading for each student
- Collaborate with other teachers, parents, and administrators

Reading Connections includes helpful resources and tools including:

- Case studies of successful teaching efforts
- An informal assessment that helps determine student strengths and needs
- A list of resources for addressing the specific components of reading
- Ready-to-use classroom activities

Reading Connections is written by Cheryl Kamei-Hannan and Leila Ansari Ricci. It is available at the AFB Store. To order, go to [Order ***Reading Connections***](#).