

## Keeping you "In the Know..." 9/18/15

### CSC Receives Grant:

CSC has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation for Early Intervention services for low-income children with visual impairments. The mission of the Eva L. and Joseph M. Bruening Foundation is to reduce the impact of poverty and enhance the quality of life of those most in need in Cuyahoga County. The Foundation invests in effective programs that serve the economically disadvantaged by meeting their educational, employment and basic human needs.

#### Will You Be There???

 Spellbound, CSC's annual fundraising gala, is next Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at The Silver Grille at The Higbee Building. This year's event, which celebrates the 29<sup>th</sup> Spellbound, will focus on services for seniors and the Independent Living program.

For more information, visit the Spellbound page of CSC's website <u>here</u>. Don't miss this exciting evening, complete with music and dancing to The Chozen Few Band!

# Educating the Community and Engaging Volunteers to Strengthen Partnerships:

• Here are some photos (thank you Bill Spiker) from last week's Dinner in the Dark at Case Western Reserve University:



Alicia Howerton, Lisa Cellura, Greg McGrath, Sylvia Snyder Derai



Board Chair Tom Furnas and friend of CSC Miriam





Dinner attendees at the table while blindfolded

- On Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, Lisa Cellura presented "Blindness Basics" to the "Train the Champion" Diversity Class at Case Western Reserve University. Lisa presented an overview of CSC services and children's vision development to the English Nanny and Governess School at CSC on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Students new to the Case for Sight volunteer group visit CSC on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> for volunteer orientation and a review of upcoming opportunities.
- The Theta Beta chapter of Delta Gamma Fraternity at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) is in the midst of planning their major fundraiser to benefit the fraternity's national philanthropy: Service for Sight. The group's annual "Anchor Splash" will be held Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm in CWRU's Veale Natatorium. "Anchor

Splash" is a campus-wide swimming competition involving men's and women's fraternities and various campus clubs and groups. It is a very popular and well-attended event on CWRU's campus. Events such as "Anchor Splash" have enabled the Delta Gamma Foundation to award more than \$2,800,000 in Service for Sight grants to local and national organizations that share our philanthropic mission of sight preservation and service to and support of those who are visually impaired.

CSC has a great history and partnership with the Delta Gammas, who are involved year-round in many CSC programs, especially Bright Futures Preschool and Early Intervention. Sylvia Snyder will be a judge in the event's most popular competition, synchronized swimming.

 The agency will be active with a variety of volunteer activities the next few weeks. On Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> a group of 10 students from Beaumont School will visit CSC for a tour, an activity and to learn about guide dogs. A group of 25-30 volunteers from Progressive's Real Estate division will be at <u>Highbrook Lodge</u> on the 23<sup>rd</sup> as well. Also, through a new partnership with John Carroll University (JCU), student volunteers will begin in the Adult Literacy program and Computer Lab on this date. The partnership with JCU will yield seven students volunteering in the program every Wednesday!

On Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, two volunteer groups from Rockwell Automation will visit CSC to complete projects in the morning and afternoon.

Finally, Progressive volunteers return to <u>Highbrook Lodge</u> on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>...this group includes 50-55 volunteers from their Regulatory Compliance division.

• The CYAS Department received an inquiry this week from the mother of an 8-1/2 year old child in Turkey who reached out for advice and assistance on educational placement and services once the family relocates to northeast Ohio in the spring.

#### Fall Recreation Activities Return:

- Fall Recreation activities are back in session at CSC! This week, Line Dancing (Mondays), Crochet and Crafts (Tuesdays), Braille Notes Choir and Tai Chi (Wednesdays), Book Discussion (Thursdays) and Game Day (Fridays) returned to action. For more information on activities, check the <u>daily calendar</u> on CSC's website, the <u>Recreation</u> <u>page</u> or call the Recreation Hotline (216-791-8118 ext. 4600).
- <u>Highbrook Lodge's</u> Fall Weekend starts at 6:00pm on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and continues until 12:00pm on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. This weekend is for teenagers or adults looking to experience camp in the fall season. Traditional camp activities will be held and the cost is \$50 per camper. Transportation from CSC to <u>Highbrook Lodge</u> is available for an additional \$15 per person. Those using this transportation option please note the bus will leave CSC at 5:00pm on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> and will return at 1:00pm on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Spots are filling quickly so RSVP as soon as possible to <u>Tamara Flowers</u> (216-791-8118 ext. 4593). Last day to sign up is Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### It's Clearance Time:

The Eyedea Shop will hold a Clearance Sale on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 4:00pm in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium B. The sale will include some magnifiers, mirrors, fit-overs, lighting and miscellaneous items. Forms of payment accepted are cash, checks and all major credit cards. Contact the Eyedea Shop (216-791-8118 ext. 4666) for more information.

# CARF Corner:

#### • Why CARF International?

CARF International accreditation provides a visible symbol that assures the public of a provider's commitment to continually enhance the quality of services and programs with a focus on the satisfaction of the persons served.

CARF surveyors use a consultative approach during the survey process to assist in improving the quality and value of an organization's offerings. Each survey team is selected based upon a match of the surveyors' areas of expertise and the organization's unique needs.

Service providers earning CARF accreditation are recognized for their ongoing innovation and continued conformance to the standards. In addition to demonstrating solid business practices, accredited providers also enjoy:

**Risk management**: Accreditation can help to reduce an organization's exposure to risk in areas such as human resources, healthcare, governance, and finance.

Access to an international network: Accreditation gives an organization the opportunity to collaborate, form partnerships, and share ideas with an international network of other providers that have earned accreditation.

#### Items of Note:

- CSC's Call Center handled 30,000 calls in the month of August...Congrats, Call Center team!
- Friend of CSC Owen McCafferty and his artwork will be featured on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at the North Olmsted Bicentennial Arts Showcase. The event, which spotlights performing and visual arts, will be held from 2:00pm – 4:30pm at Great Northern Mall. Kenny

Crumpton from FOX-8 will emcee the event which will also feature a special guest appearance by Brian Johnson of NBC's "The Voice."

- A football player who is blind is expected to join the collegiate team University of Southern California (USC) Trojans this week as a longsnapper. <u>Click here</u> for the full article.
- Have you ever wondered why the year's ninth month, September, takes it name after the number seven? <u>Click here</u> to find out.