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"in THE"
know.



10/18/19

Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community

-Tuesday was the City of Cleveland Department of Aging's 15th annual Disability Awareness Day luncheon and Cleveland Sight Center was the featured partner for the event! CSC President and CEO Larry Benders provided remarks to the sold-out crowd of 200, discussing the history of the agency, programs and services and recent success in advocating for the agency and insurance coverage of the white cane. The event also featured a special performance by a group of CSC line dancers who performed to the song "New Found Freedom" by Taylor Hicks, using their white canes as part of the dance! To view some of the video of the dance, [click here](#).



The program concluded with an informative "Tips, Tools and Techniques" presentation by Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer, which also included an overview of "Blindness Basics." The day also marked White Cane Awareness Day and was overall a great showcase for CSC.

Picture of the "Cleveland Sight Center Steppers" performing their dance with white canes

-Board Trustee Bob Englander hosted a friend for a tour of CSC and lunch meeting this week with Larry Benders, Karen Hiller and Alicia Howerton.

-Nearly 30 Optometry Residents from Ohio State University visited Cleveland Sight Center over a two-day span this week for a tour of the agency and an overview of programs and services, including an Assistive Technology talk, CYAS overview highlighting Early Intervention by Laurie Schlickman, the role of Occupational Therapists specializing in vision loss by Erin St. Denis and the role of Vision Rehabilitation Therapists by Bryan Manthey.

-Cleveland Sight Center is an exhibitor at the EastWest Eye Conference at the Cleveland Convention Center on Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week. The EastWest Eye Conference is the leading optometric conference in the Midwest and is sponsored by the Ohio Optometric Association. EastWest attendees are optometrists, opticians, optometric and ophthalmic staff – all the people who make up the eye care industry. Attendees come from across the United States and Canada. Attendees want to learn about, try out, discuss and ultimately purchase the latest in equipment, products, services and technology. Alicia Howerton, Barbara Piascik and Tom Sawyer will be on hand to represent CSC over the course of the three-day event.

-Dr. Karen Koehler and Jean Eagle from Shawnee State University visited CSC and the Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) department this week to meet with Sylvia Snyder and Andrea Marley to cement their ongoing partnership. For the last two summers, Cleveland Sight Center has hosted interns from the Teacher of the Visually Impaired licensure program at Shawnee State. They will soon be adding an Orientation & Mobility licensure program and Teacher of the Deaf licensure program and look forward to exploring internship opportunities in these areas.

-Dawn Jones and Vince Williams represent Cleveland Sight Center at today's Disability Resource Fair at the Veterans Health Administration's VA Hospital in University Circle to provide information on Employment Services, Recreation and Socialization programs and CSC services.

-Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) Case Manager Laurie Schlickman spoke to a parents' group at Redeemer Crisis Center on the west side of Cleveland on Friday, October 11th. Laurie talked about early development of vision and what to watch for as babies and toddlers mature. The 30+ attendees were a great audience!

-Cleveland Sight Center's Low Vision Clinic will offer a continuing education program for optometrists on Monday, November 4th at CSC. The program is titled "An Innovative Approach to the Treatment of Low Vision" and has been approved by the Ohio Vision Professionals Board. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

-CSC will host students from Cuyahoga Community College on Wednesday, November 6th for a "Day at CSC." Students from programs of study including occupational therapy, early education and optical tech will learn about services provided by Cleveland Sight Center, tour the agency, learn human guide and participate in hands-on activities under blindfold. Students will also hear from educational and rehabilitation service providers on issues such as technology, strategies, accommodations and interventions.

What's Happening at CSC

-Fall Weekend, CSC's annual autumn camping session, took place at Highbrook Lodge from October 11th - 13th. A whopping 38 people participated in the weekend - including 21 campers, CSC staff members and several of Highbrook Lodge's seasonal staff members who came back to serve as volunteers. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the beautiful fall weather that graced Chardon over the weekend, spending plenty of time outside. On Saturday, everyone loaded up in the camp vans for an adventure to a local pumpkin patch which offered wagon rides, pick-your-own pumpkins and fresh apples. Throughout the weekend campers also decorated cookies, bowled, had a costume contest, went for a hike, made fall-themed crafts, sang around the campfire and enjoyed tons of delicious foods.



Photo of Campers and volunteers ready for the hayride



Photo of campers and staff



Photo of a camper dressed in a banana costume

-At Monday's All Staff Meeting, the Outreach team talked about how they teach "Blindness Basics" and other aspects of their CSC branding efforts. For more information on the types of programs offered to groups, volunteers, senior centers, assisted living facilities, schools, staff trainings and so much more, check out the CSC website here.

-Tuesday was filled with Recreation activities including Line Dance, Crochet, Game Day, Music Group and Yoga. Stop by next week and check out the action...come "get your recreation on!"

-CSC will host a spooky, fun-filled Halloween party for our clients at the agency on Tuesday, October 29th. All of the regularly-scheduled Tuesday recreation programs will take place with additional programs offered in between! Extras include a client lunch in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., a Halloween craft activity from 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. and a dance party (complete with face-painting and a costume contest) from 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Be sure to pop in and say 'Boo!' to all of our clients throughout the day.

Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week: Talking Food Scale

-The holidays will soon be upon us and with that our thoughts go to all the extra goodies we may be tempted to indulge in! Perhaps getting a jump on eating better before the holidays arrive is a good option. Portion control can really teach us how to nourish ourselves in a way that will still allow us to have that cookie without feeling guilty. The Eyedeas Shop has a tool that could help. It's their new talking food scale. It has a modern sleek design with a stainless steel platform and a large back lit digital display. It measures in grams and pounds (up to 11 lbs.) with an audible voice that can be heard in one of four languages! It also has auto turn off and runs on four AA batteries which are included. The price is \$55.00. Come into the Eyedeas Shop and check it out.

Image of the talking food scale on a counter



Items of Note

-Friend of CSC Owen Schoff was highlighted this week in the Akron Beacon Journal...to read more, [click here](#).

-An article from ABC News talks about the shortage of Braille teachers in the United States. To read more, [click here](#).

-There will be an Advocacy in Motion Public Policy Community Forum sponsored by the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging (WRAAA) on Wednesday, November 20th from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the WRAAA's headquarters at 1700 East 13th Street in Cleveland. John Corlett, President and Executive Director of The Center for Community Solutions, is the keynote speaker and will present on "Trends and Predictions for an Aging Tomorrow." Other public policy issue briefs to be covered include: Older Americans Act Update, the 2020 U.S. Census and What You Need to Know During Medicare's Open Enrollment. The forum is free and open to the public. Two CEUs are available for Social Workers and Nurses. Registration is required and more information is available [here](#).

-Area alumnae of Delta Gamma are hosting their annual celebrity bartending event at Around the Corner in Lakewood on Thursday, October 24th from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.