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"in THE"  
know.



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**11/19/21**

## **Happy Thanksgiving and Thank You!**

-A most Happy Thanksgiving and Thank You to all CSC staff members, board trustees, clients, donors, volunteers and friends of the agency for your support during the year. Cleveland Sight Center continues to make a difference in the lives of thousands of people, providing resources, training, opportunities and confidence to become independent or regain independence. Because of you, our agency thrives and continues to be a leader in vision rehabilitation.

-Please note CSC will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th. The agency will be open normal business hours on Wednesday, November 24th. The weekly "In the Know" will not publish next week, resuming distribution on Friday, December 3rd.

## **#GivingTuesday is November 30th:**

-#GivingTuesday is right around the corner on Tuesday, November 30th!

#GivingTuesday was created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the past eight years, it has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity.

Be on the lookout for information on how you can support this year's #GivingTuesday initiative. All funds raised will go directly to various projects at our beloved Highbrook Lodge to keep camp beautiful and homey for campers for years to come! Donations will be accepted online; cash and checks can be delivered to Melanie Sliman (x4561).

## Words of Thanks and Impact:

-Some quotes shared by clients as the Thanksgiving and holiday season approaches:

"I just love Cleveland Sight Center. I really feel that this place has helped us so much in so many different ways. Our daughter gets to be around other children. It's a way for me to see how they interact and I can see how she interacts with other children."

"The moment I got to Highbrook Lodge, I was in love with it. I knew it was my place. You learn about humanity, about other people, about yourself. We have a family and a bond. We really do genuinely love each other."

## What's Happening at CSC:



-The Call Center began work through a new contract for the Ohio Board of Nursing on Monday, November 4th. Customer Service Representatives are assisting current and aspiring nurses with licensing and application questions. In addition, the Call Center is also handling emails for the Board of Nursing. Work is expected to average over 200 calls a day.

-The holidays are on their way...so don't forget your holiday cards! The Eyedea Shop has two new cards this year from artist Mike Sager. The store has many other returning favorites as well. Each card is a \$1.00 and all proceeds from card sales benefit services at the Cleveland Sight Center. Stop into the Eyedea Shop today or take a look on our website [www.eyedea.com](http://www.eyedea.com). And check out the cool video promoting Holiday Cards courtesy of Tony Becker (Optician), Leah Griffith (Business Coordinator) and Megan Schaefer (Marketing Manager). Happy Holidays to all! Image of a variety of holiday cards on a counter in the Eyedea Shop

-Tom Sawyer attended a virtual workshop in the "Reframing Aging" series hosted by the Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services, providing information about Cleveland Sight Center and programs and services. Outreach coordinated an educational visit to Pleasant Valley Elementary School in Parma this week as Cathy Javorsky (Switchboard Operator) and Rogue (Guide Dog) presented to 70 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) 4th grade students in two class period sessions about working with a guide dog and answering questions on her thoughts about a personal narrative the students are reading about a boy who is blind and his experiences. The students and staff loved their visit. Thank you, Cathy and Rogue. Image of Cathy Javorsky speaking to the class as Rogue lays on the floor next to Cathy with his paws up in the air

## Partner Spotlight - Case For Sight:

As a powerful advocacy group on Case Western Reserve University's campus, Case For Sight has dedicated itself to raising awareness, volunteering, and fundraising for Cleveland Sight Center. Case For Sight (CFS) is a pre-ophthalmology group and vision advocacy student organization based in service, fundraising and education for CWRU's students and the larger Cleveland community. More recently, CFS has focused on offering its organization members volunteer and fundraising opportunities at Cleveland Sight Center (CSC).

Within the past year, the group has raised nearly \$2,000, even during COVID-19! By educating the general public on what it means to have low vision or blindness, the group is able to encourage others to support CSC and its mission.



In previous years, CFS hosted a fundraising event called Dinner in the Dark, which is a way to raise funds for CSC and educate people about the obstacles those with blindness may face by offering blindfolds to its guests while providing dinner. By eating blindfolded, guests are able to experience how communication is crucial for those with low vision. CSC volunteers, families, and staff attend this annual event.

CFS co-presidents Anoushka Gidh and Charles Guo are passionate about ophthalmology and advocacy and are the organizers of the organization and its events along with the talented and dedicated executive board members. CFS dedicates so much time to CSC because of the message that CSC supports and the people at CSC. The co-presidents expressed, "The most meaningful experiences while volunteering are meeting and working alongside people at CSC - they are all so positive and enthusiastic and it makes all the difference." Not only do they love to support CSC, but they also hold many other events for fun activities and that help raise awareness.

Case For Sight's most meaningful event this year was a Disability Dialogue. With over 50 people attending, the CWRU community with students, faculty and staff were able to have an open conversation about the challenges that those with disabilities face on a daily basis around campus. After having this conversation, CFS and other advocacy groups on campus proposed campus-wide changes that could improve these issues and make change in the community. While these more serious conversations could be had, CFS has had safe and socially distanced meet and greets where CWRU students are able to meet up, raise money through selling food, and have a relaxing break from studying! Case For Sight events are aimed to involve the whole campus and the larger community and look forward to getting back to in-person volunteering and seeing everyone again!

## Did You Know:

-Did you know more than four-fifths of Americans prefer the leftovers to the actual Thanksgiving meal? According to a 2015 Harris Poll, a large majority of Americans (81%) prefer the leftovers of the Thanksgiving meal to the meal itself.