

Keeping you
"in THE"
know.



2/18/22

Cleveland Sight Center Earns Three-Year CARF Accreditation!

-We are pleased to announce Cleveland Sight Center has been accredited for a period of three years for its services in the areas of:

Community Employment Services: Employment Supports

Community Employment Services: Job Development

Comprehensive Vocational Evaluation Services

Vision Rehabilitation Services: Comprehensive Vision Rehabilitation Services

The latest accreditation is the 14th consecutive Three-Year Accreditation that the international accrediting body, CARF, has given to Cleveland Sight Center.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to an organization and shows the organization's substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

As added recognition, CSC received a notation of exemplary conformance to the standards for CSC's work on the passing of Medicaid Rule 5160-10-30. Every year, only 2-3% of all programs surveyed receive a notation such as this. Congratulations to all of you for your continued dedication and commitment in achieving a high level of standards that support the clients and families we serve!

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF International, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

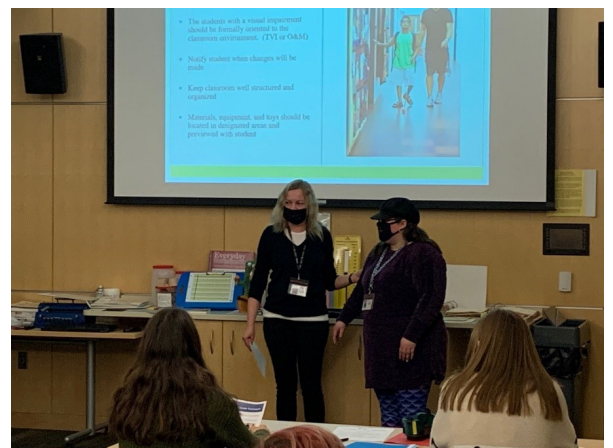
Educating the Community:

-Members of the Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) team hosted a class of students from the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center (CVCC) in Brecksville last Friday and the team recently received some feedback, which included the following from the teacher of the class. The CVCC students are interested in pursuing careers in education and are currently studying students with exceptionalities.

"I will say it again. I was blown away! More than I imagined. I really was not expecting you to address so many standards but very excited that you did! Every presenter shared such valuable information with the students. I cannot wait to read the information in the packets and look through the presentation slides. Thank you!"

Kristen Callahan presents teaching techniques to the students from Cuyahoga Valley Career Center

Alicja Zapotoczna and Andrea Marley demonstrate the sighted guide technique



What's Happening at Cleveland Sight Center

-The Facilities team moves mountains - of snow, that is! With the recent snowstorms impacting routines, commutes and all-around moving about, the weekend of February 5th saw a group of workers and



machines swarm the Cleveland Sight Center property to move the mountains of snow that had accumulated over the past few weeks. While the equipment used sounds like it should be at a zoo and not removing snow, the Facilities team supervised the snow removal efforts that included bobcats, skid steers and gators. All that was missing were lions, tigers and bears – oh my!

Several tons of snow were removed from the grounds thanks to the work of the snow removal contractor, Kevin Pye (Camp Ranger), Scott Malone (Maintenance Technician) and Chris Gruber (Director of Facilities and Transportation), all of whom worked late into the afternoon on a bitterly cold day clearing the parking lots, crosswalks, sidewalks and driveways to provide a safe environment for clients, staff members and guests. Thank you, Facilities team!



Image of a bobcat compact tractor with a front end loader filled with snow

Image of dump trucks and snow removal equipment in the main parking lot at CSC

-The Safety Committee at Cleveland Sight Center held their quarterly meeting this week. They discussed incidents that occurred since the last meeting, a review of recent facility and property walk-throughs, recommendations from items implemented at previous meetings, as well as questions or concerns from the group.

-Recreation Tuesdays returned to Cleveland Sight Center this week! Clients were excited to return to in-person programming as they made tissue paper flowers for Valentine's Day, sang along to Gabriella Drago (Leisure & Lifestyle Specialist) playing the guitar, enjoyed a meal of chicken, green beans, butternut squash and peaches from the Greater Cleveland Food Bank, learned how to play the keyboard from Volunteer Kaitlyn, played games and did a yoga session with Volunteer Mark. Clients also got to take home sunglasses and magnifiers courtesy of the Case Management/Social work team at CSC!

Be sure to check the Leisure & Lifestyles Information Line at 216-658-4600 for most recent information! Please note: ***all participants MUST show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to attend any in-person programming.





Image is of two clients smiling; one holding five heart-shaped helium balloons and the other holding a tissue paper flower bouquet

-Students in preschool had a “LOVELY” party this week to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Students made cards, practiced patterns with heart candies, made name banners, decorated cupcakes (and ate them of course!) Students also sorted envelopes into mailboxes, played Valentine’s Day Bingo and enjoyed a heart-shaped pizza for lunch. What a fun day!

Image of a preschool student spreading frosting on a cupcake for Valentine’s Day

Image of a preschooler and his Valentine’s Day card consisting of tactile hearts in red, pink and white colors

-For their next study unit, the preschool students will be exploring and learning about “building and buildings” over the next couple weeks before spring break. The classroom is looking for any kind of items related to building, construction and remodeling. Do you have any leftovers around the house that you would be willing to let the class borrow for a few days? If you do not want the materials, consider donating them to the preschool for use again in the future! Here is a list of items - but contact Dorota Tomaszewska (x8778) if you have questions or ideas about other items!

Requested items:

Bricks

Cinder blocks

Wood planks

Piece of house siding

Any types of paint brushes or painting rollers (with a tray)

Samples of roof shingles

Samples of carpet or pieces of wooden flooring

Blueprints

Nuts, bolts and fasteners

Sandpaper

Measuring tapes

Door or furniture handles

T-square

Carpenter’s ruler





Tool belt
Work helmet
Small hammers
Pieces of PVC pipe (no sharp edges)

-Representatives of the Delta Gamma chapter at Case Western Reserve University stopped by CSC earlier this week to deliver over 50 handmade Valentine's Day cards to share with CSC students and clients! The cards were bright, festive and fun - with many containing including beads, fabric and other tactile items. Thank you, DG's!

Image of a table full of Valentine's Day cards from the Delta Gamma chapter at Case Western Reserve University



-Share the Vision, a 30-year-old peer-to-peer mentoring program designed to connect new clients with trained volunteers to discuss the anxieties and fears associated with vision loss, is looking for volunteers to join the program! The volunteer should be well adapted to vision loss and will provide one-on-one support to the client to foster hope, encouragement and independence for life after vision loss. Through monthly telephone calls, participants will receive education, insight and shared experiences on how to adjust to losing their eyesight. For more information, contact Jessica Suckart (x4681 or jsuckart@clevelandsightcenter.org).

-While it may be winter, Highbrook Lodge continues to receive upgrades in preparation of the spring, summer and fall camp seasons! The Facilities team and Kevin Pye (Camp Ranger) are retrofitting all the old fluorescent light fixtures in Smith Lodge to LED lighting. The result of this in-house project will be a cleaner and more efficient light that will save both on energy cost and labor. The bulbs last about twice as long as fluorescent bulbs, which along with the recent new roof and insulation replacement, will greatly increase the efficiency of Smith Lodge, which houses the dining hall, commercial kitchen, fireplace, screened-in porch, camp office and nurse's office...and is considered the epicenter of camp! Image of old fluorescent tube lights in a garbage can for disposal

-Leisure & Lifestyle Services is happy to welcome campers to Highbrook Lodge for a Winter Day Trip on Saturday, March 19th! The plan is to enjoy the end of winter...and hopefully ushering in spring! As always, vaccination against COVID-19 is required. The trip is \$10. To register, please call Gabriella Drago (Leisure & Lifestyles Specialist) at 216-658-4598; registration opens Saturday, February 19th; a confirmation call will be made when someone is successfully registered.

-Highbrook Lodge is hiring for seasonal staff members! We're looking for empathetic, dynamic, creative individuals to guide our campers and programs.

Positions include: Leadership Team (Staff Coordinator, Camper Coordinator), Aquatic Supervisor, and Specialty Areas (Marketing, Environment/Survival/Conservation, Fine Arts, Performing Arts, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Athletics, etc.)

must be available to live at Highbrook Lodge in Chardon, OH from June 11th, 2022 - August 7th, 2022 (staff will have time off, during which they can leave camp grounds)

To read more or to apply, [click here](#).

-New this week!!! Highbrook Lodge is home to hungry, hungry campers! We're looking for a Head Chef, Support Chef, and Kitchen Aids to help run Highbrook's commercial-grade kitchen over the summer - including ordering food, meal planning, cooking and serving for about 40 people. Interested or know someone else who might be? Reach out to Bobbie Szabo (Leisure & Lifestyle Manager) at bszabo@clevelandsightcenter.org or 216 658 4597.

Did you Know:

-Did you know Tuesday's date will be 2/22/22...otherwise known as "2's day"!