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**4/29/22**

## **Vote for Cleveland Sight Center!**

-The Cleveland Plain Dealer is running a special contest for non-profit organizations and WE NEED YOUR HELP! From now until May 4, you can vote for your favorite nonprofit (Cleveland Sight Center, obviously 😊) to help us win free advertising. The top four rated organizations will win over a thousand dollars of free advertising.

Please help us by voting once per day per email address for Cleveland Sight Center! If we win, we can continue to spread the word about what we do and how vital our services are for the blind and visually impaired community. [Vote here.](#)

## **Cleveland Sight Center to Host Vision Fair for Seniors:**

-Cleveland Sight Center, in partnership with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), will host a vision fair for seniors on Thursday, June 16th from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Presentation topics will include:

"The Aging Eye: Common Eye Conditions" presented by Annalisa Schloss, OD

"When Glasses Are Not Enough" presented by Erin St. Denis, OTR/L and Bryan Manthey, CVRT

"Don't Get Tripped Up: Safety Tips and Avoiding Falls in Your Home" presented by Katie Lepis, CVRT

Program overviews of CSC and the OOD Independent Living Older Blind program will be given during this interactive morning which will also feature information tables, tours of the Eyedea Shop, raffles and snacks/beverages.

Only 40 spots are available! RSVPs can be sent to Tom Sawyer (Outreach Specialist) at 216-658-7339 or [tsawyer@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:tsawyer@clevelandsightcenter.org).

## **Register for White Cane Walk:**

-White Cane Walk is back! Invite your friends and family to join us on Saturday, June 4 for a day filled with fun activities and the traditional one-mile walk from CSC to Wade Lagoon (near Severance Hall) and back. We hope to see you there to celebrate our agency, clients and all of your hard work that got us through these past two years!

Show your support by walking (\$20/walker), starting a fundraising team, or making an individual donation online at: [www.whitecanewalk.org](http://www.whitecanewalk.org). Attached to this email is a step-by-step guide you can use to start your own fundraising team.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Steve Frohwerk (x4562) or Megan Schaefer (x4568) with any questions!

## **Educating the Community:**

-Deb Tyukodi (Early Intervention Specialist) spoke with a class of graduate students at Kent State University who are studying to be Developmental Specialists on April 21st. The students are part of a cohort working towards the Early Intervention certificate. The graduate students are receiving a scholarship through the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and currently doing internships in local county boards of development disabilities with mentor developmental specialists and speech language pathologists. Deb was fortunate enough to have been part of last year's cohort and honored to be asked as a guest speaker.

Deb presented on common causes for vision impairment in babies/infants and what are some risk factors. Other topics included signs of vision impairment in babies/infants and toddlers, what to do if there is a suspected vision concern and how vision strategies are used in the families' daily routines. The students asked insightful questions and engaged in meaningful conversation to gain knowledge to take into the field during their internships and soon as practicing developmental specialists in Early Intervention.

## **Educating the Community:**

-A busy week for Community Outreach as Tom Sawyer (Outreach Specialist) gave an overview of Cleveland Sight Center programs and services that included blindness and low vision etiquette to staff members at the Geauga County Department on Aging in two separate presentations so all senior-facing department representatives could attend the talks.

. In addition, Tom met with Portage County Senior Center's Program Manager and presented CSC collateral and discussed Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities programs of which CSC is a service provider. Tom also visited the Joseph and Florence Mandel Jewish Day School to talk with their Kindergarten classes and involve students in thought-provoking activities as they relate to low vision and blindness. He also gave the first of two "Blindness Basics" trainings to staff members at Cleveland Play House and their "Red Coat" volunteers as the Play House focuses on accessibility and inclusion.

-Bobbie Szabo (Leisure and Lifestyles Manager) and Tom Sawyer join CEO of Lake County Council on Aging Joseph Tomsick on the "Our Aging World" radio program airing Saturday, April 30th at 2:00 p.m. on 101.5 FM / AM 1330 WINT Integrity Radio. Bobbie will be talking about camp for this summer at Highbrook Lodge and Tom will promote the upcoming White Cane Walk and Vision Fair for Seniors, including how vision rehabilitation can help people.

-The Lake County Council on Aging's "Bridge" quarterly newspaper published a Cleveland Sight Center article this quarter, which focuses on various eye diseases. The article is found on page 19 of the newspaper, which is mailed to over 50,000 individual senior residences each quarter. For the digital version of the newspaper, [click here](#).

-The following thank you note was received recently from the program coordinator of the Cleveland State University occupational therapy doctorate program, who visited Cleveland Sight Center a few weeks ago to learn more about occupational therapy and vision rehabilitation:

"I cannot begin to thank you enough for the excellent presentations for the CSU occupational therapy students. They loved it and said it was their best field trip. I certainly appreciate all the effort put into the program and allowing our students to learn about Cleveland Sight Center."

## **What's Happening at Cleveland Sight Center:**

-A group of 20 clients, friends and volunteers from Cleveland Sight Center attended the Cleveland Women's Orchestra performance at Severance Hall on Sunday, April 24th. Tickets were donated to CSC from the Women's Orchestra. Attendees had a great time and one client remarked "I would like to thank everyone involved in providing the tickets for Sunday's concert. It was absolutely wonderful! We even had the chance to meet the conductor and the pianist afterward. Severance Hall is a superb place to hear a superb orchestra such as we did. Thank you again for a wonderful experience."

-Registration for the 2022 camp season at Highbrook Lodge is now open! We are excited for Highbrook to once again fill with flourishing friendship, loud laughter, and silly songs. New Campers may sign up at [this link](#). Returning Campers may log in [here](#). If you need assistance in completing the online registration process, please contact the Camp Team at [camp@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:camp@clevelandsightcenter.org) or 216-658-4598 and for more information, visit the camp pages of the CSC website [here](#).

-Don't forget Highbrook Lodge is hiring for many other exciting positions at camp! We're looking for empathetic, dynamic, creative individuals to guide our campers and programs. To read more or to apply for the positions, click here.

-Teacher Appreciation Week is May 1st - 7th! We cannot thank our teachers here at Cleveland Sight Center enough for all that they do every day. Their impact is immeasurable. We appreciate you and all of the other teachers around the world! #ThankATeacher

## **Items of Note:**

-According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), vision disability is one of the top 10 disabilities among adults 18 years and older and one of the most prevalent disabling conditions among children.

-Every household in the United States is eligible to order two sets of four free at-home COVID-19 tests. If you already ordered your first set, you can order a second today. The order form can be found here or call 1-800-232-0233 (TTY 1-888-720-7489) for help placing an order for your at-home tests.

-Don't forget you can make CSC "smile" when you shop throughout the year! When buying online items from Amazon, remember to shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/> and select Cleveland Sight Center as your charity of choice. AmazonSmile will then donate .5% of your purchase back to CSC!

## **Did you Know:**

-Did you know if you try to say the alphabet without moving your lips or tongue every letter will sound the same?