



Report to the Community

Providing individualized support and tools to navigate the visual world.

University Circle
1909 East 101st Street
Cleveland, OH 44106

(216) 791-8118
info@clevelandsightcenter.org

clevelandsightcenter.org



Building for the Future

Report to the Community:
January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022



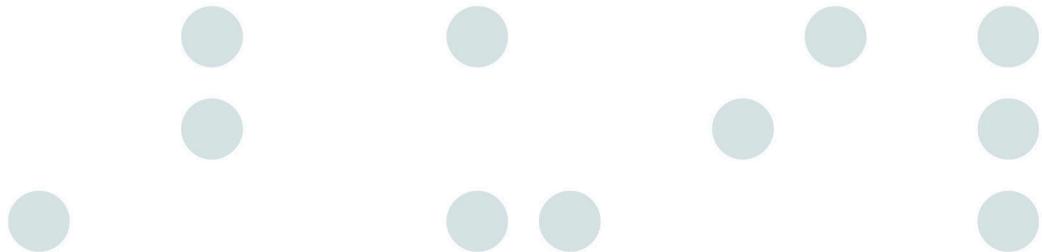
Message From Leadership

In the ever-changing climate of our world today, one thing remains constant – our commitment to providing high-quality and compassionate care to everyone who walks through our doors. Since 1906, our dedication to our clients and community has been the essence of who we are and what we do.

With the number of people living with vision issues projected to double by 2050*, we expect an increase in the number of those turning to Cleveland Sight Center. We recognize and embrace this opportunity and have taken time the last 12 months to assess who we are as an organization, the needs of our clients and how we can best serve them and the community.

With your support, we began building for the future by:

- Completing the renovation of our on-site clinic and retail store. The renovation increases accessibility, creates space specifically designed to serve children and allows a more comprehensive experience for visitors.
- Investing in a performance management group to ensure we are working as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- Embarking on a new strategic plan that outlines various goals that will set us up for continued success in the future.



*National Eye Institute, Learn About Eye Health/Eye Health Data and Statistics

We are excited for the year ahead and remain humbled to have your support as we build for the future. On behalf of our clients, staff and Board of Trustees, we thank you for your generosity and continued belief in Cleveland Sight Center.

Thank you,



Bonita G. Teeuwen
Bonita G. Teeuwen
Chair, Board of Trustees



Larry Benders
Larry Benders
President and Chief Executive Officer



About Cleveland Sight Center

Cleveland Sight Center (CSC) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that consists of a team of professionals dedicated to providing the support and tools needed to navigate the visual world. Our team of optometrists, vision rehabilitation therapists, teachers, employment specialists and other staff assess people's needs with empathy and professionalism, seeking to help each individual understand their unique vision-related needs and the resources available to them.



Building for the Future

At Cleveland Sight Center, we believe that the quality of one's sight should not determine the quality of one's life.

In the stories that follow about Reese, Amani, and the Smith Family, you will learn more about the individualized support and tools we provide to navigate the visual world.

While we build for the future, it is important to take a look at our past. We celebrate those who paved the way and built the foundation for who we are today.

<p>Cleveland Sight Center, first known as The Society to Promote the Interests of the Blind, begins its work in the basement of the Goodrich Settlement House.</p>		<p>CSC designs an overnight camp facility for people who are blind.</p>		<p>CSC moves to University Circle into a brand-new building on land donated by Kelvin & Eleanor Smith of Lubrizol.</p>	<p>Cleveland Sight Center continues its commitment to University Circle, renovating and improving its main facility.</p>	<p>Cleveland Sight Center advocacy efforts result in Medicaid coverage for the white cane in Ohio, the first (and still only) state in the country to provide such assistance.</p>	
<p>1906</p>	<p>1918</p>	<p>1928</p>	<p>1956</p>	<p>1966</p>	<p>2010</p>	<p>2012</p>	<p>2019</p>
	<p>CSC moves into its first physical location on East 55th Street.</p>		<p>CSC's first employment program begins.</p>		<p>CSC establishes a call center training program to train people who are blind or visually impaired to work in call center jobs, then launches a call center business two years later to serve businesses, nonprofits and government agencies while creating jobs for people with vision loss.</p>		

Meet Reese

Reese was born in March 2021 and was later diagnosed with osteoporosis and optic nerve hypoplasia, meaning her optic nerves did not form properly.

When Reese's mom, Summer, found out Reese had no eyesight, she was uncertain about her future.



The family began working with Cleveland Sight Center and received frequent home visits from our Early Intervention (EI) Specialists. During these visits, an EI Specialist provided the family with various tools and recommendations that helped Reese navigate her environment.

“Cleveland Sight Center has changed our lives. We've learned how to help Reese grow, how to help her move, interact with others and adjust daily activities to her needs,” Summer said.

Through a continued partnership with our EI staff, Reese is now meeting all of her developmental milestones. The knowledge, creativity and support our staff provided helped Summer be confident and excited about Reese's future.

“We've seen a lot of improvement with Reese. We now know how to help her grow and navigate life in the future,” Summer said. “This experience has really opened my eyes to what people who are blind can do. They can really do almost anything a sighted person can do, just with a little extra help.”

We are excited to partner with families like Reese's through the creation of a dedicated testing lane for children in our clinic. Through this addition, we are building for the future by ensuring the youngest members of our community get the highest level of care.

98% of parents whose children participated in EI gained knowledge on how to support their child's development.

181 families received Early Intervention services to help their child meet critical milestones.

Case Management staff partnered with **21** school districts across Northeast Ohio to ensure children received the accessibility support necessary to be successful in the classroom.



Meet Amani

Amani is from the Democratic Republic of Congo and is excited to start his own nonprofit organization after being involved with Cleveland Sight Center. Amani first recognized his vision loss as a child when his parents noticed he received better grades when sitting at the front of the class.

At the age of 6, he was incorrectly diagnosed with myopia. After Amani's family moved to Uganda, his mother sought out another medical opinion. There, he was finally diagnosed with glaucoma after years of deteriorating vision due to the original misdiagnosis.

Amani's family left Uganda because he needed medicine that wasn't available there. They decided to move to Cleveland because of the Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute. It was a Cleveland Clinic doctor who recommended Cleveland Sight Center to Amani.

Since first coming to CSC in his early 20s, he's utilized our clinic, braille classes, and the Employment Services program. He can now read braille and works a job he loves, but the self-confidence he gained through the services from CSC made the biggest difference in his life.

Amani works at Southwest General hospital where he takes care of elevators and stairwells to make sure they are clean. It makes him happy to know patients who need help are coming to a clean environment.

Amani says without CSC, he wouldn't be the smiling, hardworking person he is today.



Amani is now working on creating his own nonprofit in Uganda that will help people with disabilities have increased access to opportunities and care.

“

“We need to give people opportunities. If I was not given an opportunity in this country, I wouldn't be where I am today. I can now support people back home and raise awareness for low vision and other disabilities.”

CSC shares Amani's passion for providing individuals with the support and tools they need to navigate the visual world. We look forward to helping Amani and others reach their goals in the future.

Client job placements through CSC Employment Services **doubled** in 2022 – helping individuals secure employment.

552 individuals received a low vision eye exam at Cleveland Sight Center to better understand their vision diagnosis and how to maximize their remaining vision.

21,087 products including lighting, magnification, white canes and more were sold through our retail store.



“

“Cleveland Sight Center pushes me to be a better person, the best version of myself,” he said.

The Smith Family: Marlene, Darrell and Brian



Marlene and Darrell are longtime supporters and friends of Cleveland Sight Center.

“Cleveland Sight Center was our lifeline when we moved from Washington, DC to Cleveland. Our son, Brian, was in seventh grade and needed everything: braille textbooks, white cane training in a new school and people who cared and listened to his concerns.”

Cleveland Sight Center translated his bus schedules and textbooks into braille and continued to provide accessibility support through Brian’s college graduation. He received his college degree in math and computer science.

“Cleveland Sight Center’s assistance cannot be understated in his success as an adult,” Marlene said.

Inspired by their son, Marlene received her braille certification and later accepted the position as Braille Services Coordinator at CSC, which she held for seven years. Also inspired by Brian and his love for bike rides, Darrell volunteered his time with our bike and hike recreation program.

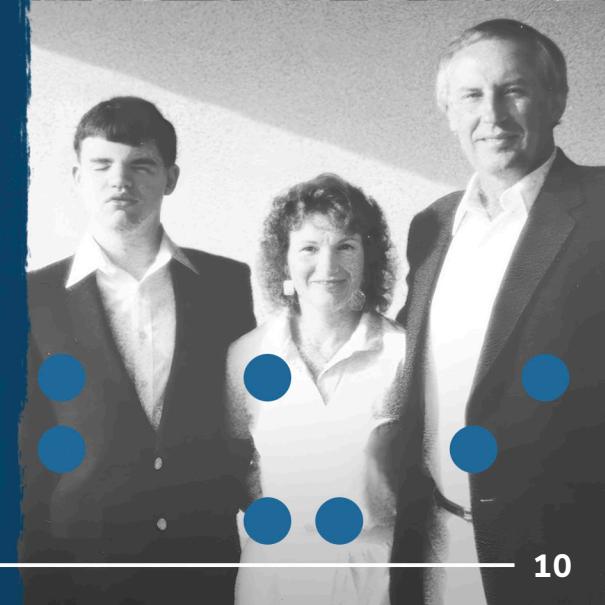
“As a family we made many friends with CSC staff and volunteers. We will be forever grateful for their part in making our son’s life better,” Marlene said.

“Our son passed away from cancer in 2010. CSC made it possible for him to learn and grow into a happy, healthy and independent adult. He loved to read and he loved knowledge. In his honor, we continue to donate to CSC to ensure clients’ needs are met and their lives are enhanced, just as braille enhanced our son’s.”

We are privileged to have been, and continue to be, part of the lives of The Smith Family. Marlene and Darrell’s generous support, along with the rest of our donors, allows us to build for a future where every client has access to the assistive technology tools they need to live the lives they want.

Rehabilitation programs including braille, white cane training and activities of daily living had a
increase in participants from last year. **24%**

145 individuals participated in Share the Vision, a peer-to-peer mentoring program in existence for over 30 years.



Donors and Volunteers

In 2022, volunteers completed over **4,017** hours of service and **1,480** individuals, organizations and foundations donated in support of people like Reese, Amani and Brian.

Because of you, we continue to serve each person who walks through our doors with compassionate and high-quality care as we build for the future.

**YOU HAVE MADE AN
INCREDIBLE IMPACT
– THANK YOU!**



“I want donors to know how important their support is to making the world a better place for all people. Their support helps make the world more accessible for us. It helps us get what we need so we can all make the world a better place together.” – *Stacia, teenage client*



“My aunt had age-related macular degeneration and was having trouble reading. I took her to Cleveland Sight Center and everyone was so welcoming. I never felt so warmly embraced. It was the dignity that they extended to their clients that impressed me the most. I now volunteer to read for the Radio Reading program and have recorded more than 700 hours over the past six years.” – *Sylvia, Radio Reading volunteer*

The complete Honor Roll of Donors and Volunteers can be viewed online at: <https://www.clevelandsightcenter.org/annual-report>

OR SCAN
QR CODE



Board of Trustees

Officers and Executive Committee

Bonita G. Teeuwen, *Chair*
 Beth W. Smith, *First Vice Chair*
 Joan U. Allgood, *Secretary*
 Wally Anders, *Treasurer*
 Karen P. Assink, *Vice Chair*

Erin C. Ploucha, *Vice Chair*
 Linda C. Smythe, *Vice Chair*
 Howard A. Lichtig, *Immediate Past Chair*
 Cheryl E. Fields, *Chair, Client Services*
 Kevin R. McKinnis, *Chair, Development*

Trustees

Caitlin Beck
 Sheryl King Benford
 Mary H. Bookman
 Brent M. Buckley
 Erin N. Chelune
 Robert L. Englander #
 Thomas P. Furnas
 Michael H. Greenberg, OD
 Robert L. Hartford, III
 Lynn V.
 Heiligenthal-Showalter
 Suber S. Huang, MD
 Peter A. Igel

Frederick Kuper Jones
 Nathan Kelly
 Bruce Loessin
 Beejadi N. Mukunda, MD
 Caroline G. Oberndorf #
 Edward Oberndorf
 Thomas P. O'Malley
 Sara W. Parish
 Douglas A. Piper
 Ronald Posner, MD
 Beverly J. Roach
 James P. Sacher
 Joseph Schafer

Andrew L. Sikorovsky
 William L. Spring, Esq.
 Zachary J. Stanley
 G. Maxwell Toole
 Kathy Walters
 Myron (Mike) Weissman
 Stanley E. Wertheim
 Steven Willensky

Executive Leadership Staff

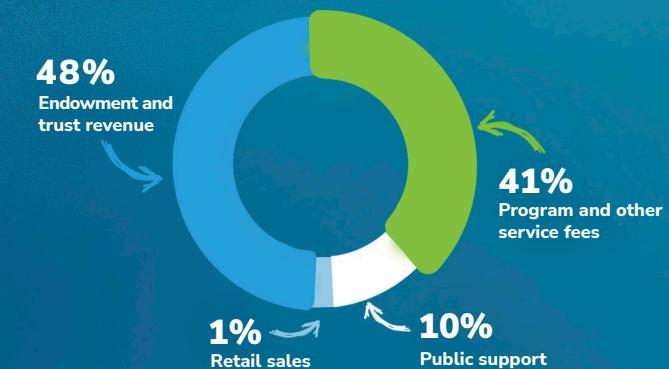
Larry Benders, *President and Chief Executive Officer*
 Kevin R. Krencisz, *Executive Vice President*
 Susie Meles, *Vice President, Rehabilitation Services*
 Jassen Tawil, *Vice President, Strategic Initiatives*
 Judith Weyburne, *Vice President, Client Operations*

denotes Trustee Emeritus

Financial Report

Financial results are for the period January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.
 To view the complete audited financial statements please visit our website.

Revenue \$11.4 Million in 2022



Expenses \$11.2 Million in 2022



Balance Sheet

Assets	
Cash, receivables, inventory and prepaids	\$4,418,127
Endowment and beneficial trust investments	\$121,348,008
Property and equipment	\$9,871,935
TOTAL ASSETS	\$135,638,070
Liabilities	
Payables and accrued expenses	\$971,107
Donor annuities	\$215,922
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$1,187,029
Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions	\$60,635,719
With donor restrictions	\$73,815,322
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$134,451,041
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$135,638,070

Statement of Operations

Revenue		
Public support	\$1,158,612	10%
Retail sales	\$119,938	1%
Program and other service fees	\$4,629,860	41%
Endowment and trust revenue	\$5,474,545	48%
	<u>\$11,382,955</u>	<u>100%</u>
Expenses		
Program services	\$9,166,508	82%
Management and general	\$1,261,986	11%
Fundraising	\$750,694	7%
	<u>\$11,179,188</u>	<u>100%</u>
Surplus from Operations	\$203,767	