

Keeping You "In the Know..." 3/3/17

CSC to Host Day of Advocacy at Ohio Statehouse on March 15:

• Cleveland Sight Center will host a day of advocacy at the Ohio Statehouse on Wednesday, March 15th to share the CSC story and show the impact the agency has on those who are blind or have low vision to state legislators and their staffs. The Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the Sight Center of Northwest Ohio will partner with CSC and support efforts that day, which include meetings with legislators along with exhibits and displays of the work done by these agencies. Some "hands-on" activities for legislators and staff will include interactive simulation goggles for common vision problems, how to use a white cane, demonstration of assistive technology products and additional activities focusing on daily tasks that become challenging for individuals with vision loss.

Electronic Health Records Assessment Kicks Off with KPMG:

• Earlier this week, a project to analyze CSC's client database system kicked off with associates from Cleveland's KPMG office. The goal of the project, which is being funded through the generosity of an anonymous donor, is to evaluate CSC's requirements for use of an electronic health record (EHR) and assess CareChart's functionality and stability versus CSC's requirements – both current and future – for clinical, operational and financial needs. The first phase of the project focuses on gathering information related to current infrastructure and systems in operation, with many CSC team members engaging in meetings the next couple weeks to discuss strengths, limitations and opportunities of the programs in use related to the collection and reporting of client information, finances and billing, medical information,

workflows and other data needs. KPMG will then create a gap analysis, at which point options for moving forward to next phases will be presented and reviewed. Periodic updates on the project will be provided in future In The Know weekly newsletters.

Educating and Engaging the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- Ali Thomas recently represented CSC at Case Western Reserve University's Humanities@Work program. Along with three other HR professionals she discussed how they consider applicants with humanities degrees, how applicants can best explain their skills and will give humanities students practical advice on resumes, cover letters and other aspects of the job/internship search from an HR perspective. She even did a little recruiting for summer staff for both Highbrook Lodge and Summer Youth Work Experience.
- Sylvia Snyder visited Lorain County Community College (LCCC) on Wednesday to assist the members of LCCC's Accessibility Department in preparing for an incoming student who is blind. The group was very receptive to all suggestions and CSC will continue to provide consult as needed. Desmond Kennedy met with Broadway Optical on Tuesday and presented CSC's programs and services to the Cleveland Clinic's Langston Hughes Community Health & Education Center on Thursday.
- Dr. Anthony Easley is featured in a documentary short film that has been chosen for a shorts film festival this weekend in downtown Cleveland. The "Short. Sweet. Film Fest!" strives to showcase up and coming filmmakers at the local, national and international levels who strive to advance the art of film. Directed by Zac Cageao, "7 Years of Darkness" is the story of a man, who has lost his sight, finding the courage and determination to make his life better. The film airs Saturday, March 4th from 12:17 p.m. 12:29 p.m. at the Alex Theater in downtown Cleveland's Metropolitan at the 9. For more information about the event and to purchase tickets, click here.

This and That from Highbrook Lodge:

Another Winter Weekend at Highbrook Lodge is successfully in the books! Weather throughout the weekend varied from 72 degrees to 27 degrees – but it did not stop everyone from having a good time!
 Activities such as campfire, bowling and hiking were able to be held outside before the colder weather set in. Campers were even able to make their own snow during a STEM activity on Saturday afternoon. Camper Robin stated that her favorite activities were "going on a hike in the woods and making baked apples over the fire". Camper Tom added that his favorite part, besides the activities, was "seeing all [his] friends again..." and that the staff/volunteers were "so nice and helpful".



Friday at Highbrook Lodge: 72 degrees with sun



Sunday at Highbrook Lodge: 27 with snow



Tactile arts including hearts and shamrocks member



A camper enjoys bowling with the assist of a staff

- Registration for upcoming summer 2017 camp sessions at Highbrook Lodge is now OPEN! Are you or a family member interested in spending time outdoors, making new friends and much more? Highbrook Lodge utilizes the benefits of the natural environment to promote friendship, growth, independence and self-sufficiency through traditional camp activities adapted to the needs of campers. The 2017 schedule with additional information is posted on the Highbrook Lodge pages of CSC's website, <u>click here</u>. Any questions, contact the Camp team at 216-791-8118.
- Do you know compassionate and caring individuals (18 and over) who would like to be the envy of all their friends and experience the summer of a lifetime while making a difference? If you do, Highbrook Lodge is the place for them! Energetic, enthusiastic and compassionate people are being recruited to serve as Cabin Leaders (general counselors), an Arts & Crafts Leader and a Registered Nurse for the upcoming camp season. In addition to these paid positions, camp workers are rewarded with outstanding experiences, resume enhancement, new friendships, the most delicious catered food, bunking in a rustic chic cabin for the summer and above all the appreciation of their campers and Leadership Team! Don't hesitate –

encourage people to apply today at https://csccamp.trackingtalent.com/opportunities.

An Update from Bright Futures Preschool:

• This week, the students celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss! As part of "Read Across America" day held on March 2nd, students had a morning filled with all kinds of activities related to Dr. Seuss books. They played a matching game featuring Dr. Seuss characters, the Cat in the House balancing game, made a craft, counted fish, and practiced cutting, rhyming and spelling. After lunch the whole group participated in "Race in the Hat" and went through an obstacle course with the Cat. The day concluded with making a hat for a Cat, singing happy birthday to Dr. Seuss and eating delicious cupcakes!



Students play the card matching game



Student creates a birthday card



Youngster races in the hat



Student participates in the obstacle course

Bright Futures Preschool will host an Open House on Thursday, March 9th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pass the information to anyone who might be interested in learning more about CSC's preschool. Contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) with any questions.

Kudos from Clients:

• Team CSC does great work every day to help clients gain or regain independence. The agency received a letter of gratitude after Toni Catron-Andrews recently helped a client obtain a viewer. The letter stated "Dear Toni, thank you very much! I just wanted you to know how happy I am using this viewer. It has truly been a blessing; I use it all the time! Reading has become so much more enjoyable. I appreciate you taking the time to make sure I received it. The weight of it, and just getting it to me, are well noted! Thank you!"

Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

 This week's featured product is the new voice activated clock, who goes by the name "Reminder Rosie". She is a familiar looking digital clock that is voice activated and can have 25 programmable reminders that can be up to six seconds each. Record your reminders in any language! Program this clock for yourself or an elderly parent with reminders such as "Dad it's time for your medication" or "Good morning Mom, we love you." Alarms can be heard up to 100 feet away. Remember appointments, birthdays and any other things that are important with this easy to use clock. The cost is \$105.00.



Reminder Rosie talking clock

 Can't make it to the Eyedea Shop at CSC? Then check out the product offerings online at www.eyedeashop.com and purchase items from the comfort of wherever you may be!

Items of Note:

 Lose those job interview jitters at CSC's March meeting of Job Club! Stop by CSC's Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium on Thursday, March 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. to get the best tips and tricks from a panel of CSC's Employment Specialists and take part in mock interviews to sharpen your skills. Come build interview confidence and learn how to show employers that you're the professional candidate they want.

- An update from the Ohio Department of Transportation: the East 105th Street traffic shift originally scheduled to begin March 1st has been <u>postponed</u>. Please stay tuned for another update when the new date is selected. For more information on this development, <u>click here</u>.
- A sophomore at Kirtland High School is hosting a fundraiser, Jonah's Vision, with proceeds to benefit CSC on Sunday, April 30th at St. John Vianney Church in Mentor. Jonah is blind in his right eye from an accident that occurred in April 2010. Although he has never used CSC's services, he would like to help out the kids who do. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and include pasta dinner and music entertainment. Tickets for 50/50 Raffles and Gift Baskets will also be available for purchase at the fundraiser along with Silent Auction items. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, providing a donation or donating items for gift baskets or the silent auction, please contact Brion Cummings (216-276-0989 or bndcummings@att.net). Tickets must be purchased prior to the event and checks can be made payable to Jonah's Vision.
- IFB Solutions announces kick-off for National "Blind Idol" Singing Competition. This national competition is open to contestants who are legally blind. IFB Solutions, in partnership with Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind (RLCB), is looking for this country's best singers who also happen to be legally blind to participate in the third annual A Brighter Path Blind Idol singing competition. Interested singers can visit www.blindidol.com for competition details. Submissions open on February 13, 2017 and end on March 13, 2017.

Did You Know?

 The Arcade in downtown Cleveland opened in 1890 as the first indoor shopping center in the United States, according to the Arcade website. Nicknamed Cleveland's Crystal Palace, the five-story Victorian-era structure features a 300-foot-long glass skylight and is home to dozens of shopping and dining establishments as well as the Hyatt Regency Hotel. It was financed by renowned Cleveland businessmen John D. Rockefeller, Steven V. Harkness, Louis Severance, Charles Brush and Marcus Hanna.



Image of inside the Arcade