



Keeping You “In the Know...” 4/5/19

Giddy Up!

-Join Delta Gamma Cleveland East Alumnae for “A Night at the Races” to benefit Cleveland Sight Center! The event will be held Saturday, April 13th in CSC’s Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium. Tickets are \$35 each and include dinner. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; dinner at 6:30 p.m. For more information, to buy tickets, sponsor a race and more, [click here](#).

Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:

-Larry Benders and Alicia Howerton represented CSC in Columbus this week in support of the budget testimony given by Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Director Kevin Miller. While in the state capital, Larry and Alicia met with LeeAnne Cornyn, who is responsible for the state’s children’s initiatives under Governor Mike DeWine.

-The Social Security Administration requires that Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) make unannounced visits each year to partners performing consultative exams to help assure the best possible service to clients. During a recent visit to Cleveland Sight Center, the OOD Professional Relations Officer “found the building to be professional, nicely decorated and well kept. The office was easy to locate, has ample parking, and maintains a very nice atmosphere for the clients that are referred to you for evaluation.” Way to go, CSC!

-The Outreach team met with The Starting Point CEO, Billie Osbourne-Fears and a staff member this week for a tour of CSC and to learn more about programs and partners. Outreach also visited with staff from Cole Eye Institute to share collateral to give to patients and talk about the upcoming White Cane Walk. An employee of St. Vincent Charity Hospital visited the

agency for a tour and to learn more about programs and services. This individual also works with The Friendship Inn Settlement to elevate awareness of programs and services available in their Cleveland neighborhood. Outreach also had a presence at various senior networking meetings to promote the agency's offerings. Outreach concludes another busy week with a vendor table and talk about programs and services on Sunday at Kent State University as part of the NFB's Blindness Empowerment Workshop.

-Jenny Schaeffer and Alicia Howerton attended the Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities Open House to share information about Highbrook Lodge and CSC.



Alicia Howerton at the CSC information table

-Today CSC staff members Tony Becker, Karen Bain Hiller, Alicia Howerton, Melissa Mauk, Tom Sawyer, Laurie Schlickman and Fidel Swain participate at various times in career panel discussion and tour with a large group of students and chaperones from Memorial School in Cleveland who are part of the Tru2U program, which is a mentoring opportunity to strengthen the local talent pipeline and help students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District build career awareness.

-Annette Jakse recently began a six-week group training Independent Living program at the Madison Senior Center.

What's Happening at CSC:

-The Electronic Medical Record project management team went live with the Ticket to Work program in Employment Services on Monday, April 1st! Additional recent work included the integration of new forms from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) for reporting and billing purposes. The team also continues to work with Compulink (the software provider) on the integration of EyeCare, which is used in the Low Vision Clinic, and ClientCare, which will be used by all other departments at CSC, to ensure proper exchange of information through a singular client database for the agency. This key connection is the next major component to moving forward with implementation of ClientCare across all remaining departments at CSC.

-CSC welcomed Zoe Ridenour (BLAST) and Suga Saravanan (Volunteer Services) as new volunteers to CSC at a recent volunteer orientation. Welcome to the team Zoe and Suga...we are excited to have you join us!



Zoe and Suga in front of the CSC front lobby sign

-Each month, Volunteer Services is holding a drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift card for all volunteers recording their volunteer hours. This month, the winner of the contest is Susan Mertz.

Susan Mertz: CSC Braille Transcriber

As a CSC braille transcriber, flautist in a community band and a gardener, Susan Mertz is an active individual who was drawn to CSC as a way to put her braille transcription skills to use. With CSC as the first organization she thought to connect with due to her early experiences as a camp counselor at Highbrook Lodge, Susan explains that she loves the variety of projects she works on as a transcriber, especially as each project has its own unique challenges and victories. Most recently, Susan completed a handbook distributed to CSC employment clients as one of her projects.

Braille Production Coordinator Jennifer Dean shares how helpful it is to work with Susan, furthering that she “is willing to take on projects whenever she can.” Thank you, Susan, for your work to make a difference as a volunteer at Cleveland Sight Center. The time and talent you use to make a significant impact for those who experience blindness and low vision. We appreciate all you do for clients and for CSC!

-Students in Bright Futures Preschool returned from spring break and started the week with horseback riding at Fieldstone Farms!

-The Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) Department hosts the annual Spring Fling event on Saturday, April 6th at the agency for the families of CSC’s very young clients. Attendees will enjoy arts and crafts, games, snacks and hunting for treat-filled eggs. Beeping eggs will be placed throughout the search area as a non-visual clue to where the eggs are hidden. Over 100 dozen eggs were stuffed with goodies this week thanks to the volunteers from Delta Gamma at Case Western Reserve University.

-The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees meets at CSC on Monday, April 8th. The Finance Committee approved CSC’s 2018 audited financials this week, which will be included in the soon-to-be-published Annual Report and have been added to CSC’s website [Financials page here](#).

-Save the date: Bright Futures Preschool graduation will be Thursday, May 23rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium at CSC.

Items of Note:

-CSC was recently featured in a KeyBank newsletter about the agency going to an automated accounts payable system. Check out the feature story by [clicking here](#).

-Take a look at this information received about friend of CSC Owen McCafferty and his artwork. "Beck Center for the Arts is pleased to host Student Art Exhibition Spring 2019 featuring our visual art and Creative Arts Therapies adapted arts therapies students, along with inspiring visually-impaired up-and-coming artist Owen McCafferty, and master artist of the Columbus TRANSIT ARTS Youth Program Robert Duarte Brown; with a kick-off reception on Friday, April 12 from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. This exhibition showcases the visual art created by artists of all ages, levels, and abilities. This art exhibition is free and open to the public. Attendees to this event will have the opportunity to meet many of the artists and discuss their work and inspirations." The Beck Center for the Arts is located at 17801 Detroit Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107.

-Microsoft has announced plans to transfer the research and technology behind Code Jumper to the American Printing House for the Blind, a nonprofit based in Louisville, Kentucky, that creates and distributes products and services for people who are blind or with low vision. Over the next five years, APH plans to offer Code Jumper and related curriculum to students throughout the world, with a target audience of students who are 7 to 11 years old. To read the full article, [click here](#).

-Due to the overwhelming support received for their February Inclusion TGIS, the Temple-Tifereth Israel in Beachwood will host another inclusion event on Friday, April 12th. This month's service will also be welcoming to all members of the community and they plan to have many more Inclusion TGIS services in the future. Led by Rabbi Klein and Rob Ross, the service will include sign language interpreting by congregant Karen Schiller, large print and braille siddurs, and the service's music and readings projected on a large screen. For more information, [click here](#).

-A group of high school students at the Nueva High School in San Mateo, CA is working to develop technology that helps people with impaired or limited visibility. They have reached out to CSC to obtain feedback via a short six-question survey. To view or take the survey, [click here](#).