

Keeping you "In the Know..." 11/20/15

Happy Thanksgiving and Thank You!

 A very happy Thanksgiving and thank you to all CSC staff, Board of Trustees, clients, volunteers, and friends for your support during the 2015 year. Our agency would not be as unique, talented and strong without your continued passion and commitment to our mission to empower people with vision loss to realize their full potential and to shape the community's vision of that potential.



CSC staff members hold letters spelling "THANK YOU!"

• The agency will be closed Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. The office will re-open Monday, November 30th.

CSC Receives Estate Gift:

 A generous gift from the estate of Beverly Stadler Harris was recently received. Mrs. Harris grew up in Cleveland and later moved to the Chicago area. Through her estate, she has made several major philanthropic gifts to Cleveland area non-profits. She passed away in January 2015 in Wheaton, Illinois. Clearly a woman of compassion and care, Mrs. Harris has made a \$150,000 gift to Cleveland Sight Center. The details of her leadership philanthropy are still being worked out but her generous support is sincerely appreciated.

Giving Tuesday is December 1st!

 CSC will again reach out to donors, supporters and friends on Giving Tuesday, a worldwide day of philanthropy aimed to help nonprofits achieve their goals and collective missions, which follows the business of "Black Friday" and "Cyber Monday." To check out more, visit CSC's Facebook page here and spread the word about Giving Tuesday December 1st!

Educating the Community and Spreading CSC's Message:

 If this is not a record-setting week for number of community engagements, it is certainly near the top! On Monday, Susie Meles and Lisa Cellura presented the "Aging Eye" to Wesleyan Village in Elyria and Jamelle Workman presented vision and CSC services to the Lupus Support Group in Cleveland. Tuesday was just as busy as Lisa Cellura and Board Trustee Cheryl Fields presented "What Do You Do When You Meet a Person Who is Blind" to Jamison Elementary School and Alicia Howerton hosted an ophthalmic technician from Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute for a tour and discussion about CSC services. Lisa Cellura presented the "Aging Eye" to Strongsville Senior Center on Wednesday and then teamed up with Anthony Easley to present the "What Do You Do" program to Wilson Elementary School. On Friday, Anthony Easley and Tom Sawyer staff a display at the NFB Conference in Independence while Larry Benders and Steve Frohwerk visit with WEWS Channel 5's Leon Bibb to discuss CSC's services on the show "Kaleidoscope with Leon Bibb". Finally, over the weekend Joel Zureick presents Employment Services at the NFB Conference and Lisa Cellura presents at the Foundation Fighting Blindness

Conference in Independence where Tom Sawyer displays assistive technology.

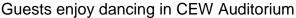
Establishing and Strengthening Partnerships:

- For this month's Job Club meeting held at CSC on Thursday, November 19th, Peer Mentor Nicole Kahn and the Employment Services staff welcomed Curtis Scruggs and Chuck Felps from the Northeast Ohio Reentry Coalition. The guest speakers discussed many keys to a successful job search and particularly focused on how individuals may address legal backgrounds as they apply and interview for various positions. Both Mr. Scruggs and Mr. Felps provided helpful resources and answered many questions from our consumers and Employment staff, and all felt that this workshop was a big success.
- Get your Great Lakes Brewing Company (GLBC) holiday presents wrapped for a good cause! The GLBC gift shop will host Cleveland Sight Center on Friday November 27th, Friday December 11th, and Friday December 18th from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. Those who make a donation to CSC during those times in the store will have their presents wrapped in the exclusive Christmas Ale wrapping paper! If you are interested in volunteering on any of these days to assist in gift wrapping, contact Megan Koeth (216-791-8118).
- CSC has been selected as Cuyahoga Community College's Job Link Services Employer of the Year and was recognized at their Employer Appreciation luncheon on Thursday, November 19th. Mike McManamon and Keith Winn represented the agency.

Recreation Update:

 A very lively bunch of 60+ friends attended the annual Harvest Moon Dance at CSC on Saturday, November 14th. Thanks to the Recreation team and six volunteers who made for a very enjoyable evening of food, dance, and festive fun!







Guests fill the tables at the Harvest Moon Dance

• Holiday at Highbrook is Friday, December 11th...come experience all the wonderful outdoor offerings of Highbrook Lodge and surrounding areas in December! The group will depart CSC at 9:00am and head to the Marc's store in Chardon for some holiday shopping. Then it is off to Highbrook Lodge for lunch, a winter hike, holiday-themed arts and crafts, and songs around the campfire. Campers will return to CSC by 4:00pm. The cost is \$20 per participant, which includes transportation. To register, contact Tamara Flowers (216-791-8118) by Friday, December 4th. All campers must register AND pay the fee before December 4th.

Happenings in Children & Young Adult Services:

- Parent conferences were held last week for Bright Futures Preschool.
 The CYAS team also received a visit from the Ohio Department of Education for a records review, which occurs periodically. The preschool students and some clients in the Early Intervention program had their photos taken in class on Tuesday, November 17th. Next Tuesday, November 24th the class will enjoy a Thanksgiving luncheon in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium.
- Giant Eagle Apples for the Students Shop. Scan. Support
 CSC's Bright Futures Preschool. This program is a great way for our

preschool to earn funds for our school's overall educational needs. Is your Giant Eagle Advantage Card[®] registered? Now's the time to check. All you need is our school code 5788 to verify a card or register a new card.

- 1. Visit www.gianteagle.com/AFTS.
- 2. Enter your Giant Eagle Advantage Card® number (which appears under the bar code).
- 3. Enter the school code 5788
- 4. Done! Please encourage your extended family and friends to register too.

Every time you scan your Giant Eagle Advantage Card at Giant Eagle or Get Go, our school earns points which translate into a cash donation!

• Bright Futures Preschool can earn DOUBLE the value of points in November through the Labels for Education program. Please bring in your UPCs to Lorie Marsalis.





Labels for education "Double Up This Month" graphics

CARF Corner:

 Congrats to the entire agency and the CARF leadership team of Lisa Cellura, Charlotte Fornal, Marcia Houston, Susie Meles, Alexis Vickers, and Joel Zureick on a successful two-day surveyor visit last week. CSC shined during the meetings and we look forward to the results in the next 4 – 6 weeks.

Eyedea Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

This week's featured product in the Eyedea Shop: The Stella Light!
 The Stella Light is only \$170.00 and has three color settings (warm, cool, and natural) and five brightness settings! The lumen output from 127-1410. Stop by the Eyedea Shop to check it out today! Call us at 216-791-8118 of shop online at www.eyedeashop.com.

Items of Note:

- Check out CSC's Annual Appeal page of the agency's website. <u>Click</u> here.
- Check out a follow-up article on Rebecca Alexander, the deaf/blind author who CSC co-sponsored with Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center at last week's Mandel JCC Speaker Series. <u>Click here</u> for the full article.
- The NFL's new "Color Rush" campaign introduced an unintended consequence last Thursday night: Some colorblind viewers were unable to distinguish between the Buffalo Bills' red uniforms and the New York Jets' green uniforms. Read the full article here.
- Freedom Scientific and Optelec have joined forces in recent assistive technology merger. <u>Click here</u> for the press release.
- Here are nine things you may not know about the Terminal Tower, one of Cleveland's most iconic symbols. Click here.
- The weekly "In The Know" will not be distributed Friday, November 27th and will resume Friday, December 4th. Happy Thanksgiving!