

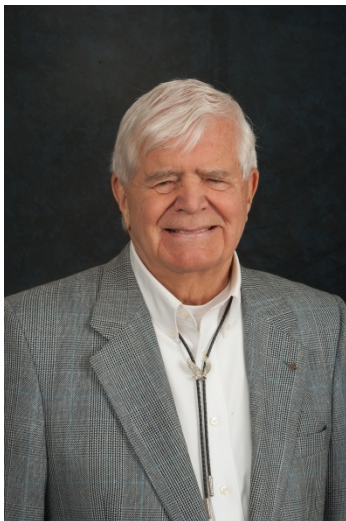


Keeping you “In the Know...” 12/18/15

In Memoriam: Jack Bennett

- [Jack Bennett](#), member of the Board of Trustees, passed away Tuesday evening. A member of the Board since 1996 and a devoted volunteer, Jack was one of the first volunteers of Cleveland Sight Center's [Share the Vision](#) peer to peer telephone outreach program, which provides support to clients who are newly adjusting to vision loss.

Services for [Jack](#) will be held on Saturday, December 19th at 4:00pm at the United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls, 20 S. Franklin Street, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022. We send our deepest sympathies to Board Trustee [Priscilla Hoag](#) and the Bennett family during this most difficult time.



Jack Bennett

CSC Receives Grant from CareSource Foundation:

- CSC received a \$7,500 grant from the CareSource Foundation this week. Board Trustee and CareSource Representative [Beverly Roach](#), along with CareSource Community Education Representative Maria Ritchie visited with [Larry Benders](#) and [Bill Spiker](#) on Wednesday, December 16th at the agency. [The CareSource Foundation](#) provides responsive grants to non-profit organizations that impact children, adults, and families in areas that mirror the social determinants of health. The funds will be directed to CSC's [Social Work](#) department. Thank you, [Beverly](#), for your instrumental efforts in supporting CSC with this grant!



Bill Spiker, Beverly Roach, Maria Ritchie, and Larry Benders with the enlarged check

Spreading our Message and Impacting the Community:

- This week, we have been able to tell our story and educate the community through a variety of programs, tours, and visitors to CSC.
 - On Monday, Ohio House of Representatives District 9 Representative Janine R. Boyd visited CSC to meet with and tour the agency with [Larry Benders](#), [Bill Spiker](#), and [Lisa Cellura](#).
 - Ohio House of Representatives District 11 Representative Stephanie D. Howse visited the agency on Tuesday and met with [Larry Benders](#) and [Bill Spiker](#). [Lisa Cellura](#) presented the "Aging

Eye” program to the West Park YMCA Active Older Adults group on Tuesday.

- The Normandy Senior Group visited CSC on Wednesday, where they met with [Alicia Howerton](#) and toured the building.
- To further the agency’s recent collaborations with Hawken School, on Thursday another group of students visited to learn about and discuss the emotional adjustment to vision loss with [Lisa Cellura](#).
- The following legislators from the Ohio House of Representatives are scheduled to visit the agency on Friday in an effort to learn more about the agency’s history, needs, programs, and services.
 - Rep. Bill Patmon District 10
 - Rep. Mike Dovilla District 7
 - Rep. Marlene Anielski District 6
 - Rep. Martin J. Sweeney District 14
 - Rep. John E. Barnes Jr. District 12
- Finally, on Friday, [Lisa Cellura](#) and [Sterling Garrett](#) present “Blindness Basics” to employees from the Cuyahoga County Department of Health.

Strengthening Partnerships: Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD)

- CSC’s team met with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD’s) Cleveland Bureau of Service for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) team for the quarterly service meeting on Monday, December 14th. [Deborah Ruffin](#) discussed billing updates and [Susie Meles](#) represented [Rehabilitation Services](#), providing information regarding the new customer service fundamentals training schedule. [Nicole Kahn](#), [Carlton Toppin](#), [Paul Rosenberg](#), and [Alexis Vickers](#) attended on behalf of [Employment Services](#). Year-to-date employment outcomes were discussed along with an update on CSC’s recent CARF survey. BSVI asked for feedback regarding their recent annual job fair and thanked CSC for our efforts transporting and assisting consumers.

BSVI counselors will be at the agency Tuesday, January 12th and Thursday, January 21st for consumer intake. Contact [Alexis Vickers](#) (216-791-8118) with any questions.

Congratulations TLC Graduates:

- CSC's [Transitional Life Counseling](#) program, more commonly known as [TLC](#), recently finished its fall session. The goal of [TLC](#) is to provide hope, assist group members to remain independent, and successfully adjust to vision loss. The group met every Friday for eight weeks and 12 participants graduated on Friday, December 11th. Thanks to the [TLC](#) program staff and [Transportation](#) team for their efforts on another successful program!



TLC participants share a story while Toni Catron-Andrews, Nicole Kahn, and Joel Proskovec lead the session

The Importance of Highbrook Lodge:

- Stefan, a summer staff member at [Highbrook Lodge](#), recently mentioned this about [CSC's Highbrook Lodge](#): "I am thankful for [Highbrook's](#) sense of community, belonging & empowerment. It truly helps campers believe in themselves – it's life-changing." The camp

staff is already gearing up for another successful summer season! Reach out to [Lindsay Lowe](#) (x4596) to learn more about how the abundance of offerings [Highbrook Lodge](#) makes a difference in the lives of our clients, families, and staff. Registration is coming soon!

- A total of 19 campers enjoyed the [Holiday at Highbrook](#) event held on Friday, December 11th at [Highbrook Lodge](#). Campers were able to complete some holiday shopping at Marc's in Chardon before heading to [Highbrook Lodge](#) for lunch, trivia, a hike, and a holiday craft project. The next event at [Highbrook Lodge](#) will be [Winter Weekend](#) held February 27-29, 2016. Contact [Tamara Flowers](#) (216-791-8118) for more information.



Campers enjoy a hike on the trails at Highbrook Lodge

Eyede Shop's Featured Product of the Week:

- This week's featured product in the [Eyede Shop](#): THE LARRY. The Larry is an 8-LED pocket light with an output of 60 lumens and is water and impact resistant. Available in red, blue, black, and yellow and three AAA batteries are included for only \$10! Stop by before these guys sell out fast!
- Can't make it to the [Eyede 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!

Ho Ho Holidays at CSC:

- Saturday's [CYAS Cookies with Santa](#) event hosted 45 children and their families for holiday cheer. Over 175 people attended and enjoyed arts & crafts, holiday treats, and a visit from jolly Santa Claus! Additionally, raffle tickets for gift baskets generated \$739 this year – a record! Thanks to the entire team for making a very memorable experience for the families...the staff, volunteers, family and friends, and the jovial [Bill Spiker](#).



Huston receives a gift from Santa



A full Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium



A youngster enjoys making crafts



A baby explores a stuffed snowman

- Friend of CSC Donald Taylor and his parents visited [Bright Futures Preschool](#) on Monday, December 14th for their annual stop and to distribute gifts to the youngsters, read books, and sing songs.



Donald Taylor and his mother lead a song



Preschoolers make hand gestures as part of a song

Items of Note:

- Holiday Office Hours: The CSC office will be closed at 2:00pm on both December 24th and 31st.
- For all you online shoppers, remember CSC is a participating charity of [AmazonSmile](#), where online retailer [Amazon](#) donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations selected by the customer. CSC is listed as **Cleveland Society For The Blind** by AmazonSmile. Visit the [website here](#) and pass along to family and friends to select Cleveland Society For The Blind as the recipient of a donation on your next AmazonSmile purchase!

Did You Know?

- CSC was established in 1906 as the Cleveland Society for the Blind by eight volunteers representing the Cleveland Public Library, Visiting Nurse Association, Associated Charities, and interested lay people.