

## Keeping you “In the Know...” 4/17/15

### Put on Those Walking (or Running) Shoes!

Registration is now available for this year's White Cane Walk & 5K Run, held at Legacy Village in Lyndhurst on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup>! The event is presented by the Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio and through a generous challenge grant from the SWP Foundation, the first \$30,000 raised this year will be matched dollar for dollar!

For details, click here to access the White Cane Walk & 5K Run website, built on a new user-friendly fundraising platform called CrowdRise. Register as an individual, start a team or join an existing team to make this year's event the most successful to date! Jump right in to get started or stay tuned for details on training sessions for the new website including how to share with those in your personal and professional networks...and remember to spread the word...whitecanewalk.org!!!

### Strengthening Partnerships:

Representatives from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) will visit CSC on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mindy Duncan, the head of the Bureau for Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) will be joined by Elizabeth Sammons to learn more about CSC's programs and efforts in adult literacy, Braille literacy, call center operations and employment initiatives. OOD is interested in learning more about CSC's procedures and outcomes in these areas and how they can be applied statewide.

A related article discusses that disability insurance is providing a much-needed safety net for 9 million Americans, but basic flaws in the program's structure mean that many never work again. Click here for the full article.

Over 40 people attended the Foundation Fighting Blindness Cleveland VisionWalk kickoff meeting at CSC last weekend. This year's event is Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and is being chaired by John Naples.

Marcia Houston and Dr. Anthony Easley attended the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center's Faces of Change luncheon on Wednesday, where Michelle Knight shared her story of healing in the keynote speech.

As a leading organization in our community advocating for people with disabilities, CSC was invited for a tour of the recently renovated Near West Theatre on Wednesday. Dr. Steven Friedman and Greg McGrath attended the walk-through of the building, which is located in the heart of the Gordon Square Arts District, and discussed partnering in the future. Called the “Magical Factory of Transformation,” the facility enables the organization to expand their mission of impacting lives by engaging diverse people in transformational theater experiences. The building was specifically designed to provide accessibility to audiences, cast and crew, expand their programming capacity and open up possibilities for new partnerships that will dramatically increase their reach and impact.

CSC will host four members of the Distinguished Gentlemen of Spoken Word, a group of young males ages 8-18 who study the art of performance poetry, for career shadowing on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. The group performed at CSC earlier this year and details for this opportunity are being coordinated by Dr. Anthony Easley (x8751).

## **Educating the Community:**

Lisa Cellura met with members of the Christ Child Society of the Western Reserve on Wednesday morning and gave them a tour of CSC. The group assists with preschool vision screenings in Lake County and recently made a \$1,000 donation to CSC to provide sponsorship opportunities for Lake County youth to attend Highbrook Lodge this summer.

Lisa Cellura visited a social worker at Forest Hills Terrace this week to discuss our agency and worked with students of Case for Sight on a white cane awareness program at the Tinkham Veale University Center at Case Western Reserve University.

Over 25 participants will attend Camp Hubble Day, sponsored by NASA Glenn Research Center, at CSC on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. The interactive program for middle school students will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hubble Telescope. Participants will enjoy activities with NASA scientists, engineers and volunteers to learn about Hubble.

## **Thank You Volunteers:**

CSC's volunteers are vital to the agency. We celebrate National Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>) and thank our volunteers for his or her service to our agency. Last week alone, 45 volunteers contributed 188.5 hours to CSC, a value of \$4,251! Visit CSC's Facebook page to check out the daily volunteer spotlights this week.

## **Exciting Opportunities with Highbrook Lodge and Recreation:**

Greg McGrath, Lindsay Lowe and two returning Highbrook Lodge summer staff members visited The Sight Center of the Northwest Ohio on Wednesday to speak to potential campers and their families about all Highbrook Lodge has to offer. The Sight Center of the Northwest Ohio is making a strong push to get as many of their clients to camp as possible.

Camp Manager Lindsay Lowe and three returning Highbrook Lodge summer staff members are attending the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mid States Camp Conference in St. Charles, Illinois from April 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. The Mid States Camp Conference is a three-day interactive professional conference for everyone from first-year counselors to seasoned executives. Highlighting youth development and current camp industry practices, the conference fosters hands-on learning through presentations in a variety of focus areas, including staff development, program management, diversity and inclusion, team-building, songs/games, facility management and more! Our staff members are excited to gain new perspectives for the upcoming season at Highbrook Lodge and network with other camp professionals!

Through a newly-established partnership with the Western Reserve Rowing Association, the Recreation team now offers rowing as an activity! A team of rowers has already started conditioning on rowing machines. For more information on this exciting opportunity, contact Desmond Kennedy (x4595).

The Winner's Club met Tuesday to celebrate National Jazz Month with performances by members of The Chosen Few Band Jeff Johnson (guitar) and Billie Walls (saxophone). The group also presented Dr. Steven Friedman with a card and gardening gift to enjoy in retirement.

### **CARF Corner:**

- CARF is the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and its mission is to promote the quality, value and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of persons served.

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System for organizing standards into logical, action-oriented framework:

- Emphasizes continuous improvement and integration
- Reaffirms importance of input of stakeholders to inform processes
- Helps ensure the organization's purpose, planning, and activity result in positive outcomes

#### **ASSESS THE ENVIRONMENT**

- Leadership
- Governance

#### **SET STRATEGY**

- Strategic Planning

#### **PERSONS SERVED & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS – OBTAIN INPUT**

- Input for Person Served and Other Stakeholders

#### **IMPLEMENT THE PLAN**

- Legal Requirements
- Financial Planning and Management
- Risk Management
- Health and Safety
- Human Resources
- Technology
- Right of Person Served
- Accessibility

#### **REVIEW RESULTS**

- Performance Measurement and Management

#### **EFFECT CHANGE**

- Performance Improvement

Stay tuned for more from CARF!

### **Items of Note:**

Pick your pony! Have you purchased tickets yet for Night at the Races to be held at CSC on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>? Any donation will be matched, dollar for dollar, by an anonymous (and generous!) donor. All proceeds will benefit Highbrook Lodge! For more information including purchases tickets or a horse [click here](#).

For the fourth consecutive year, Dr. Mark Bobofchak and Betsey Hallenburg of Eye Care for Animals in Akron are donating their services for CSC employee and client guide dogs. They will be at CSC on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to conduct free eye exams beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium A. Contact [Lorie Marsalis](#) (x8768) to schedule an examination. There is a Registration Form that needs to be completed for each dog being examined – Lorie has offered to help anyone who needs assistance.

John Bramblitt, an artist who lost his eyesight in 2001, creates amazing paintings of landscapes and people he has never seen. Click [here](#) for the full story.