

Keeping you “In the Know...” 5/8/15

Hot Off the Press: CSC’s Annual Report!

CSC’s Annual Report hit mailboxes this week! The piece was designed by marketing firm Level Seven (who designed CSC’s new website) and highlights Fiscal Year 2014 in a folder layout that can be used throughout the year as a marketing piece for the agency. Information is presented in a variety of interesting formats including infographics, story capsules on volunteers and donors, financial charts and graphs, and a timeline of agency highlights and milestones. Those receiving the Annual Report include all donors and volunteers from Fiscal Year 2014, members of the Board of Trustees and community partners.

Thanks to Paula Winter who appears on the cover of the piece as well as the Board Members and CSC staff who provided input on this important asset that tells CSC’s fantastic story. The piece will be added to CSC’s website within the next few days, including an audio file.

Annual Meeting is May 13th at Corporate College East:

CSC’s Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, May 13th at Corporate College East beginning at 12:00pm. Join us as President and Executive Director Larry Benders is introduced. Anne Goodman, President and CEO of Saint Luke’s Foundation, will deliver the keynote address titled “The Performance Imperative: A Framework for Social Service Excellence.” Tickets are \$35; CSC staff can attend for \$20. Contact Melanie Sliman at 216-791-8118 to RSVP.

Exploring New Opportunities and Strengthening Partnerships:

Two members of the William J. and Dorothy K. O’Neill Foundation visited CSC this week to explore possible funding for our efforts in the area of Early Intervention. CSC’s program focuses on children from birth to three years old and involves not only the child, but his or her parents, siblings, other family members, caregivers and preschool teachers. This holistic approach to these interactions, facilitated by CSC’s Early Intervention Specialists, provides the foundation for significant strides to be made in helping the child. Private support makes a very real difference in not only this very young life, but also in the lives of all others who will support and nurture the child. We are grateful for the site visit from the O’Neill Foundation and optimistic regarding the potential for a grant in support of this program which connects the entire family, a funding objective of the foundation.

A group of Share The Vision volunteers met to continue Skills Enhancement/Motivational Interviewing training on Tuesday, May 5th. The session, the second of six scheduled trainings, was facilitated by Share The Vision coordinator Moreed Kamal, Social Work Manager Jim Hlavaty and Director of Social Services and Supported Employment Services Joel Zureick along with Nicole Clevenger of the Center for Evidence-Based Practices at Case Western Reserve University. The goal of the training conferences is to help Share The Vision volunteers learn effective interventions to help their clients adapt to their sensory loss and to help empower clients to choose and achieve personal goals. Participants voiced enthusiasm for this opportunity to learn skills that will help them as volunteers. Training sessions will continue in June and July.

Nicole Clevenger also worked this week with Employment Specialists and other staff members of CSC’s evidence-based Supported Employment/Individualized Placement and Support (SE/IPS)

program. SE/IPS staff members are learning to become more proficient in the use of interventions that have been shown by research to help our clients achieve rewarding and enduring employment in the competitive marketplace. Additional training seminars scheduled in July and September.

The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum and Great Lakes Science Center will be partners in this year's Summer Youth Work Experience program, a five-week residential, work and transitional program for young adults who are blind or have low vision. The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum has requested CSC to make Braille copies of their exhibit guide to have on hand for any visitors with a vision-related need.

Educating the Community:

The Community Engagement team had another busy week. On Monday, Janet Burke from Lake Farmpark visited CSC to photograph our staff and guide dog teams. The photos will be displayed as part of Working Dog Weekend at the Farmpark June 13th and 14th. Also on Monday, Lisa Cellura presented the Aging Eye program to St. Augustine Towers Assisted Living and met with representatives of Case for Sight to plan for their Dinner in the Dark which will take place September 11th and proceeds benefit CSC. On Tuesday, May 5th, Board Member Tom Furnas brought a colleague to tour CSC and learn about our mission. Thanks, Tom! To close out the week, Alicia Howerton provided a tour for staff of Cuyahoga Community College's ABLE program on Thursday and Lisa Cellura attended a senior health fair in Independence on Friday.

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.

Over the next weeks, four parts of Performance Improvement will be reviewed.

Performance Improvement – Important Points and Questions (Part 2):

For each service to be accredited in your system, have you analyzed indicators of efficiency? Effectiveness? Consumer and other stakeholder satisfaction? Service access? How have you used what you are learning to improve your service? What have been the results of your analysis for business function improvement; service delivery improvement?

Consumer Council Corner:

A webinar on the State of Employment for People with Disabilities: Opportunities and Challenges will take place on May 27th from 1:00pm to 2:00pm. It is more and more common that employers recruit, screen, and conduct much of the hiring process online. While this has given employers new ways of finding workers, it has presented challenges for employers and for people with disabilities.

Joe Bontke of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission will detail some of the pitfalls that employers may face regarding on line tools and processes under the ADA. He will also look ahead to potential emerging issues in online employment practices and the rights of people with disabilities. [Click here to register.](#)

Items of Note:

The Call Center is hosting another Open House at CSC on Friday, May 15th from 10:00am – 2:00pm. We're searching for great candidates to work both at CSC or from home! Contact David Magyar or Ali Thomas at 216-791-8118 for more information.

Volunteers contributed 160 hours to CSC last week, a value of over \$3,600!

Bright Futures Preschool spends five Mondays this spring horseback riding at Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center in Chagrin Falls. Here are some photos from this week's field trip.



Josiel on horseback as Mr. Keith watches



Matthew on horseback

Save the Date: Bright Futures Preschool graduation is Thursday, May 28th from 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium.

Labels for Education is offering bonus points for all labels and caps submitted. Please bring in your labels or send them to Lorie Marsalis (x8768) by June 12th to help Bright Futures Preschool.



Register now for the White Cane Walk & 5K Run, held at Legacy Village in Lyndhurst on Saturday, June 20th! 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! This year, we celebrate 10 Years Walking!