

Keeping You "In the Know..." 10/19/18

CSC Receives Grant from the Eva L. & Joseph M. Bruening Foundation:

 CSC received a \$10,000 grant from the Eva L. & Joseph M. Bruening Foundation this week to support Early Intervention services. The Bruening Foundation aims to improve quality of life in Cuyahoga County by investing proactively in early childhood development. Eva & Joseph Bruening were successful Clevelanders who cared deeply about the success of their city. They viewed the children of Cleveland as their legacy. They believed they had a responsibility to care for those in need.

Engaging and Educating the Community:

- Randy Knapp represented CSC at an interactive and educational conference on "Leveraging User Accessibility and Experience for a Better World" on Thursday, October 18th at Hyland Software's facility in Westlake. The event was presented in partnership between Hyland Software, Leading Hands through Technology and The Workmen's Circle Educational Center – Ohio District.
- Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer presented the "Tips Talk" to a group at the Parma Heights Senior Center this week and provided a training in "Blindness Basics" to a group focused on "Training the Champions" at Case Western Reserve University.
- CSC partners with the Cleveland Museum of Art, Community Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Northeast Ohio DeafBlind Association and Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities for "A New Sensory

Experience" tactile carnival being held at the Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday, November 4th from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The event will celebrate members of the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, Blind & Low Vision Communities and will feature a variety of accessible carnival games that emphasize the use of touch and other sensory skills to compete. These games provide a "hands on experience" for children and adults to do real life activities as experienced by those who have hearing or vision loss. Games will be accessible to all, including those who have vision or hearing loss. The event is free and open to all.

Strengthening Partnerships:

Saving Sight with a Splash! The Delta Gamma (DG) Theta Beta chapter at Case Western Reserve University hosted Anchor Splash, their annual fundraising event for Cleveland Sight Center, on Friday, October 5th. The DGs invited members of fellow fraternities and sororities to compete in relay races as well as a synchronized swimming competition. Funds raised from groups participating will be donated back to Cleveland Sight Center! Thanks for your continued support, Delta Gamma!



Members of the Delta Gamma event crew



Participants show the "Gamma" sign with their elbow bent and hand touching forehead



T-shirt from Anchor Splash that reads "Saving Sight with a Splash"

 Delta Gamma Volunteers Make Cleaning Fun! Delta Gamma volunteers made cleaning the preschool fun during their Friday, October 12th project, laughing together while they wiped down surfaces and toys to make them nice and fresh for Bright Futures Preschool students. In addition to preschool cleaning, DG volunteers also assisted cleaning the computer, training and volunteer rooms on October 9th and assisted with inventory in the marketing storage area on October 17th. Thank you to all volunteers who helped with these projects!



A volunteer cleans plastic balls in the ball pit



A volunteer cleans up the Adult Literacy program classroom



Volunteers fold, sort and inventory CSC shirts and pullovers

What's Happening at CSC:

- The Call Center continues to be busy handling inquiries for the upcoming election through the Office of the Secretary of State Jon Husted. On average, they are processing 150 calls a day related to voter registration and polling locations with a recent high of nearly 1,000 calls one day since the campaign began a few weeks ago!
- Cleveland Sight Center welcomed Allyson Fedor (Radio Reader), Thomas O'Malley (Audio Describer) and Akhila Vuppalapati (Employment Administrative Volunteer) in a recent volunteer orientation held at the agency. The three volunteers were fascinated during their tour of the agency, asking many questions about different areas at CSC and the technologies and techniques utilized by individuals who experience blindness and low vision. We are excited to welcome Allyson, Thomas, and Akhila to the CSC team!
- Social Recreation activities this week included Line Dance, Crochet, Game Day and Music Group.

- Students in Bright Futures Preschool will be having their annual Halloween Parade through the halls of CSC on Wednesday, October 31st beginning at 12:30 p.m. The trick-or-treaters are excited to show off their costumes and walk the agency for goodies...please keep in mind there are peanut allergies so no products that contain peanuts this year.
- The United States Association of Blind Athletics (USABA) is hosting its annual National Fitness Challenge! Participants with vision loss across the country are teaming up to get fit! Each participating city receives 25 Fitbits to be passed out to help participants track their daily step count on their smart phones. If you are interested in joining the USABA National Fitness Challenge, please email Mollie Evans at <u>mevans@clevelandsightcenter.org</u> or call 216-658-4597 to learn about receiving a Fitbit and/or joining the NFC Fitbit group!
- Thanks to the Fiscal Management team and all CSC departments for their hard work on the 2019 budget. The budget is nearing completion and will be presented for review and approval at the Thursday, November 15th Finance Committee meeting, then the full Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for Monday, December 3rd.
- The CARF team continues preparations for the CARF Surveyors visit to CSC on November 29th -30th. CSC has been assigned these surveyors:

James W. Baxter, Ph.D, CPHQ, CBHE, Administrative Surveyor, Team Coordinator/Report Compiler (St. Paul, MN)

Marcia L. Echavarria, MPH, M.S. Ed., CVRT, CLVT, Program Surveyor Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center-Advanced HOPTEL Outpatient Blind Rehabilitation Clinic (VISOR) (Houston, TX)

Sharon Duke, M.S., CRC, Program Surveyor Goodwill Industries of Kentucky (Louisville, KY)

This Week from the Eyedea Shop: Flip-Ups

• If you find that carrying a second pair of sunglasses is too much of a burden, try the Eyedea Shop's "flip ups". These sunglass covers clip to prescription eye war and flip up out of the way when not needed. They come in grey or amber polarized lenses and different shapes. The Eyedea Shop's price is \$10.00 per pair. Stop in and check them out!



Three pairs of "Flip Ups"

Items of Note:

Suber Huang, MD, MBA, who serves on CSC's Board of Trustees, extends an invitation to all to attend a very special event on Saturday, November 17th. Future Vision Foundation (co-founded by Suber Huang, MD, MBA and Jennifer Deutsch) will hold an inaugural event at Cleveland Museum of Art. Three individuals will be honored and presented with awards: Dr. ME Hartnett, recognized for her work on aberrant and pathological ocular neovascularization; Dr. Krzysztof Palczewski, for his work on rhodopsin and the fundamental mechanisms of sight—crucial to the understanding of blinding eye diseases; and Dr. Mark Humayun for innovative research in artificial vision has been recognized at the very highest of the vision research

field. If you are interested in attending, please open the following link for more information and to connect with Future Vision Foundation's movie trailer: <u>www.FutureVisionFound.org</u>

- A local sculptor is translating modern art into 3D brain candy for people who are blind or have low vision. <u>Click here to read more</u>.
- Herbal Essences recently debuted an innovative and inclusive new shampoo and bottle design in honor of World Sight Day. The company decided to create a special etched design on the bottom of their shampoo and conditioner bottles (lines for shampoo, dots for conditioner) to ensure those with visual impairment could easily tell one from the other without any additional help. To read more, <u>click here</u>.
- The Dancing Wheels Company & School presents their "Babes in Toyland" production on November 9th and 10th at the Saint Ignatius Breen Center for the Performing Arts. CSC clients, staff and constituents are being offered a special discount rate of 10% off the ticket price for the Saturday, November 10th performance. Call 216-432-0306 for tickets which includes a fun family party after the show. When calling, use "ADA Group" as the code to receive the discount. The organization also will have two special student matinee performances on Friday, November 9th at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. This performance is open to children in school, home schooled, and senior groups. The price of the ticket is \$5 per person but does not include a party.