



Keeping You “In the Know...” 10/6/17

Strengthening Partnerships:

- Members of the CSC team had multiple community engagements this week to tell the CSC story and showcase the agency’s programs and services. Tom Sawyer represented CSC at two Assistive Technology Vendors of Ohio events hosted by Ohio’s State Support Teams and OCALI (Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence), held in Mansfield on Tuesday, October 3rd and Rootstown on Wednesday, October 4th. Desmond Kennedy visited Southwest General Health Center in Middleburg Heights on Tuesday, attended the VA Disability Expo on Wednesday and visited the NEON Clinic on Hough Avenue on Thursday. Alicia Howerton conducted multiple tours for visitors to the agency as well.
- Secretary of State Jon Husted mentioned the work being done by CSC’s Call Center in a recent voter registration meeting in Marietta, OH. The Secretary explained the move of his office’s business services call center to CSC and the large reduction in wait times and more efficiency and customer service for the business owners of Ohio. [Click here for the full article in the Marietta Times.](#)
- CSC was represented at last Friday’s “Dinner in the Dark” event hosted by students in the Case for Sight program at Case Western Reserve University. The event sought to raise awareness for people with vision loss, hosted a guest speaker, followed by a dinner in which attendees were asked to blindfold themselves for the duration of the dinner. Attending on behalf of the agency were Melissa Bresnahan, Lisa Cellura, Karen Hiller, Alicia Howerton and Desmond Kennedy. The event was featured in “The Observer,” Case Western Reserve

University's independent student news source. [Click here for the full article.](#)

- The Cleveland Play House will continue to offer audio described performances for the remainder of their 2017 – 2018 season. A trained audio describer will verbally describe the visual elements - actions, costumes, scenery - of the performance during pauses in the stage dialogue so that visitors who are blind or have low vision can envision what is taking place on stage.

Audio described performances for the 2017-18 season are scheduled for the following Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m.:

The Diary of Anne Frank: October 28, 2017 • Outcalt Theatre

A Christmas Story: December 2, 2017 • Allen Theatre

Marie and Rosetta: January 27, 2018 • Allen Theatre

The Invisible Hand: February 24, 2018 • Outcalt Theatre

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee: April 21, 2018 • Allen Theatre

The Royale: May 12, 2018 • Outcalt Theatre

A limited number of tickets are available for each performance beginning one month prior to each show date. Tickets may be ordered over the phone by calling CPH Subscriber Services at 216-400-7096 or via website at clevelandplayhouse.com. Make sure to use promo code AUDIO when ordering.

What's Happening at CSC:

- A group of volunteers from Crum and Forester Pet Insurance visited Highbrook Lodge on Friday, September 29th to help with cleaning up the playground, deep cleaning the kitchen and helping with some laundry. A huge thank you to the group for their hard work!



Group photo in front of the fireplace



A volunteer pulls weeds

- Congrats to the participants in the 2017 USABA National Fitness Challenge for taking 2,625,772 steps in the month of September! With the last two months of the 2017 USABA National Fitness Challenge here, the participants are being asked to finish on a high note and challenge themselves even more! Just like with any workout or exercise, finishing hard and with purpose is the only way to finish. So if you're hitting 10,000 steps a day right now, why not aim for 12,000? Take advantage of any group meetups you have in your local area to push and encourage your fellow participants to keep the activity levels up. The finish line is getting near - are you ready to give it all you got? Keep up the great work!
- Volunteer Services recently hosted students from Beaumont School for a service learning day at CSC. This week, CSC received some thank you notes from the students. Here's what some of them had to say:
 - “Thank you for opening up your arms and welcoming us. Thank you for teaching me about different experiences and challenges people face. I had a great time making others happy.”
 - “Thank you for the opportunity to come to Cleveland Sight Center. We really enjoyed our day. The experience was very educational and inspirational.”
 - “Thanks for giving me the opportunity to visit your organization

and serve you. It was a very inspiring and insightful experience that helped me better understand the world around me...specifically those with visual impairments.”

- 16 “tweens” will attend CSC’s second BLAST event on Saturday, October 7th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Most of the group will meet at CSC where they will participate in ice-breakers and games for about 45 minutes before heading to Luther’s Farm Market in Richfield, OH, where more tweens and two staff members will join the group. At the farm, attendees will enjoy a hay ride, corn maze, petting zoo, pumpkin canon, have lunch and engage in a sensory scavenger hunt! The next BLAST event will be a New Year’s celebration at CSC on Saturday, January 6th, 2018! Contact Kristen Callahan (216-791-8118) for more details on the BLAST events.
- CSC welcomes Charles Palmer from Low Vision Aids, Inc. to the agency on Monday, October 9th to demonstrate the Patriot Voice Plus, a standalone scanning device which integrates high quality, accurate, text to speech in a compact design easily moved around the home or office. The Patriot Voice Plus is Wi-Fi enabled for internet voice searches. The demonstration is open to staff, clients, customers and outside eye care professionals and will be from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Tom Sawyer (216-791-8118).
- Start October off right with brand new Therapeutic Recreation (TR) programming at CSC! TR programming will start Monday, October 9th with a lesson on how to make no-bake pumpkin cake bites. On Wednesday, October 11th, the TR department will lead chair dancing, followed by an exploratory nature walk on Thursday, October 12th. All TR programming will take place from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at CSC. For more information or the full calendar of events, email Mollie Evans at mevans@clevelandsightcenter.org.
- The Employment Department is preparing for some upcoming events at CSC. On Tuesday, October 10th the group hosts the monthly meeting of the Employment Collaborative of Cuyahoga County and welcomes Sodexo back to CSC for a hiring event on Thursday,

October 19th. For more information, contact Rosalie Daley (216-791-8118).

- The Development Department hosts a “Because of You” major donor appreciation event on Wednesday, October 18th at the Maltz Performing Arts Center. For more information on this event, contact Karen Hiller (216-791-8118).
- The Consumer Council will host a pre-employment forum at CSC on Thursday, November 9th. More information to follow.

Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week: Lanyards

- The Eyedeas Shop has plenty of seasonal-themed lanyards made by Director of Children & Young Adult Services Sylvia Snyder. They are available for \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00. Please come in and purchase to support the agency's CYAS program.



Variety of lanyards in colors and themes

Items of Note:

- CSC staff members joined together for a team photo on Thursday, October 5th to say “Go Tribe!” as the Cleveland Indians begin the MLB playoffs.



Staff members in front of the CSC yard sign showing “#1” with their fingers

- According to the National Federation of the Blind (NFB), just 1% of the blind population is born without sight; the vast majority of the estimated 10 million Americans who are blind or visually impaired lost their vision later in life. In 1987, Andrew Chepaitis’s grandmother became part of that statistic: She started to lose her vision due to macular degeneration. It was this experience that would lead Chepaitis, 13 years later, to found ELIA Life Technology, a company that wants to mass-produce an easy-to-learn tactile reading system based on the Roman alphabet. ELIA bills its system, called ELIA Frames, as an alternative to braille—particularly for people who learned how to read regular text before losing their vision. To read more about this alternative expected to be released at the end of this year, [click here](#).
- Join The Dancing Wheels Company for “ON DISPLAY/Cleveland”, a movement installation by Heidi Latsky Dance celebrating every person on International Day for Persons with Disabilities. Four (4) opportunities to participate are available:
 - Friday, October 13th – Rehearsal/Audition 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Dancing Wheels Studio
 - Saturday, October 14th – Rehearsal/Audition 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Dancing Wheels Studio

-Friday, October 20th – Installation 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at University Hospitals

-Sunday, December 3rd – Installation 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. at University Hospitals

Participation in both installations is not mandatory. Participants are encouraged to attend one rehearsal/audition to learn and understand the performance installation process. Participant performers are required to wear and provide their own white clothing that is simple, elegant and does not look like dancewear. Interested participants should contact Sara Lawrence-Sucato, Dancing Wheels Company Member and Tour Manager by email at touring@dancingwheels.org or by phone at 216-432-0306 for more information and/or to sign up for the Installations and Rehearsal/Audition.

- The Akron Blind Center hosts their annual White Cane Experience featuring the White Cane Walk at Canal Park (300 South Main Street, Akron OH 44308) on Saturday, October 7th. The event is the agency's signature awareness campaign and fundraiser to highlight the challenges and adaptive abilities of those who are blind or have low vision. There will be free entry, fun, music, contests, screens, entertainment, prizes, giveaways, demonstrations, food, raffles, auctions and challenges. For more information, call 330-396-0425.

Did You Know?

- In ancient times, strangers shook hands to show that they were unarmed. The military salute is a motion that evolved from medieval times, when knights in armor raised their visors to reveal their identity.