

Keeping You “In the Know...” 12/1/17

#GivingTuesday Raises \$15,790 for CSC!

- Cleveland Sight Center participated in #GivingTuesday on November 28th, an international day where charities, families, individuals, businesses, communities and more around the world come together for a common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give. Gifts received for this year’s campaign totaled **\$15,790...the highest in CSC’s four years of participation!** Total amounts in years past were \$10,076 in 2016, \$2,540 in 2015 and \$850 in 2014. Thank you to those who made a gift or passed along CSC’s message to help make this year’s #GivingTuesday the best yet. Congratulations to Tina Pringpuangkeo and Barb Williams who were the winners of the #GivingTuesday Staff Challenge raffle!



Photo collage of CSC staff members with #UNselfie messages



Tina Pringpuangkeo displays the items from the CSC swag bag

Continuing to Tell CSC's Story in Columbus:

- Larry Benders and Alicia Howerton traveled to Columbus on Wednesday, November 29th where they had appointments with legislators in both the Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives, meeting with Rep. Marlene Anielski, Rep. Nickie Antonio, Rep. Janine Boyd, Sen. Matt Dolan, Sen. John Eklund, Rep. Dave Greenspan, Rep. Stephanie Howse, Sen. Gayle Manning and Rep. Martin Sweeney. The objective was to thank the legislators for their support of CSC over the last year and to continue to advocate and tell the CSC story at the Statehouse.



Alicia Howerton, Larry Benders and Rep. Stephanie Howse

CSC's Annual Appeal Continues:

- This fall's Annual Appeal, which supports all areas of the agency, is titled "Every Family Has a Story" and highlights the Schoff Family, who was introduced to CSC when their son Owen was just eight days old. This important piece of marketing collateral is an important fundraising tool to CSC's revenue stream. [Click here](#) to access the Annual Appeal page of CSC's website.

Educating the Community and Strengthening Partnerships:

- A group of 25 students from Hawken School visited CSC on Wednesday, November 29th where they learned about the agency and technology from Lisa Cellura and Mary Jo Chisnell. The group was the first of three classes from Hawken School to visit CSC over the next three weeks.



Students wearing vision simulation glasses



Lisa Cellura presents to the students

- Desmond Kennedy made visits to University Hospitals Ahuja Medical Center and the Avon location of Cleveland Eye Clinic this week.
- The following was written in a thank you note to David McKee from Lisa Waryck, Volunteer Services Manager for the Lakewood Team of Hospice of the Western Reserve, regarding the CSC Radio Reading program:

-“Thank you so much for the time and effort you and your volunteers put into helping a hospice patient be able to listen to a book he so looked forward to. He read it when he was younger and just loved it. The patient’s spouse is legally blind and could not read it to him. Also, being able to turn on a CD whenever and however long is much nicer anyway! On behalf of the patient and the staff here at Hospice of the Western Reserve, we thank you all.”

- Chris Gruber attended the quarterly Police Advisory Council Meeting for University Circle on Thursday, November 30th. Agenda items and topics covered included crisis management in an emergency incident, deployment of Cleveland Police in various types of incidents and an emergency preparedness update for University Circle.
- An audio described performance of “A Christmas Story” will be available at the Saturday, December 2nd performance at the Allen Theatre in Playhouse Square. 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. To purchase tickets, [click here](#).

What’s Happening at CSC:

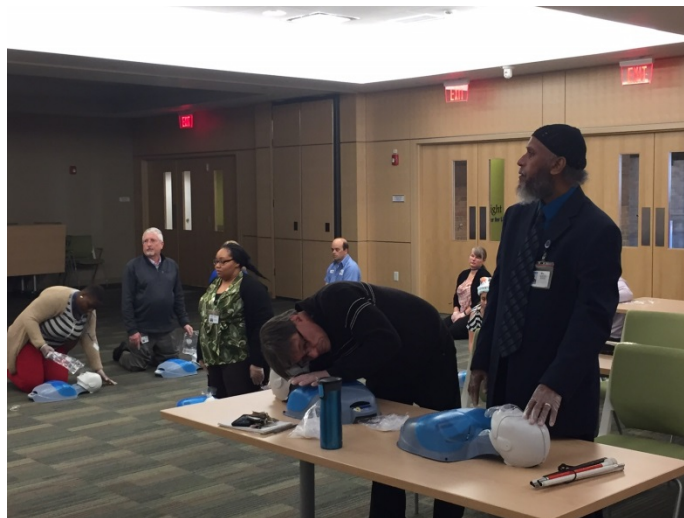
- Congratulations to Anne West-Ellmers, COT, who was recently published! Anne contributed a chapter to a comprehensive textbook titled *Principles and Practice in Ophthalmic Assisting*. Congrats, Anne!
- The Therapeutic Recreation (TR) department has lots of reasons to be thankful this season! The past couple of weeks, the TR team has been working with clients to improve their well-being AND celebrate the holidays, from art projects, to games, to stories. The team is excited to continue the festivities into December! In the meantime, enjoy the following poetry from our clients:
I am grateful for Highbrook Lodge.
It makes me feel excited to do art projects.

I hear bowling,
I smell and taste chicken,
I am grateful for Highbrook Lodge.



A turkey door wreath made during TR Arts and Wellness, held every Monday at CSC

- CSC staff members had the opportunity to participate in CPR/AED Training at the agency on Tuesday, November, 28th. Thanks to those who joined the sessions.



Joel Proskovec and Moreed Kamal follow instructions during training

- CSC welcomed three new Radio Readers to the volunteer corps with orientation on Tuesday, November 28th. Welcome to the CSC team Van Jackson, Isabel Kazour and Olivia Perfetto.



Isabel Kazour and Olivia Perfetto

- Today is Holiday at Highbrook...check back next week for an update on all the day's happenings! Remember, Winter Weekend 2018 at Highbrook Lodge is February 23 – 25. For more information and to complete camper paperwork, contact Lindsay Svarovsky (216-791-8118).
- Group trainings on how to use the iPhone are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, December 5th at CSC. Hosted by Randy Knapp and funded through the Senior Independence Fund, individuals age 55 and over will participate in four weekly training sessions.
- The CYAS department has plenty of activities scheduled for the month of December including a day at Highbrook Lodge on December 2nd, a ride on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad's Polar Express train on December 6th and the annual "Cookies and Milk with Santa" event at CSC on December 9th. For more information on these events, contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118).
- There will be no Job Club meeting for the month of December as the group will be taking a break for the holidays and wishes everyone a healthy and happy New Year. Job Club is tentatively planned to

resume on Thursday, January 18th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at CSC. Additional information will be provided closer to the date.

Eyedeas Shop's Featured Product of the Week: Wine Bottle Bags

- Wine Bottle Bags made by Sylvia Snyder are in for the holiday season! Stop by the Eyedeas Shop to check out a variety of prints for whatever holiday you and yours may celebrate. Not only can you put in a nice bottle of wine as a gift but they can also be used for other tall items. The bags are \$3.00 each or 4 for \$10.00. What a deal and Happy Holidays!



Various patterns and prints on wine bottle bags

Items of Note:

- The 2018 Holiday Time Off Schedule for CSC is as follows:

Monday	January 1 st	New Year's Day
Monday	January 15 th	Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday	May 28 th	Memorial Day
Wednesday	July 4 th	Independence Day
Monday	September 3 rd	Labor Day
Thursday	November 22 nd	Thanksgiving Day
Friday	November 23 rd	Day After Thanksgiving
Tuesday	December 25 th	Christmas Day

- Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus has made the staff at the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute his honorary elves this year. The staff will help send letters in Braille to boys and girls who are blind (those under the age of 10) in the United States. Fill out the form at the link below by December 15th, 2017 and click “submit” to make sure a letter is sent to the child. A reply from the North Pole in print and contracted Braille will be sent. [Click here to get started!](#)
- The Parma Hills Lions Club presents their annual winter fundraiser at Bleachers Sports Grill (6855 Ridge Road, Parma, OH 44129) on Saturday, December 9th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and include the food buffet, beer, wine and well liquor and a portion of the proceeds benefits Bright Futures Preschool. Contact Cathy Javorsky or Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118) for tickets or more information.
- As the holiday shopping season is upon us, 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?

- Every American uses about 100 gallons of water every day...that's for drinking, washing, using the restroom...everything!