



**Keeping You “In the Know...” 5/24/19**

**White Cane Walk is One Week Away!**

-White Cane Walk is Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> and is Cleveland Sight Center's annual event to raise critical dollars needed to support our mission and raise awareness of our agency and the services we provide. Join us as we walk 1 mile through beautiful University Circle!

In its 14th year, White Cane Walk has raised over \$750,000 in support of CSC. These funds are vital to keep many programs and services available to clients, many of which are not covered by medical insurance.

[Register to walk or make a donation here](#). All donations of \$15 or more qualify you to walk as well. We hope that you will join and support us!

**Schedule of Events**

9:00 a.m. – Registration Opens and Activities Begin

10:00 a.m. – 1 Mile Walk from CSC to the Art Museum Lagoon and Back

10:30 a.m. – Activities Continue

**Activities Include:**

- How to use a white cane for safe navigation
- Face painting and balloon artist
- Hands-on experiences such as beeper corn hole, technology demonstrations, arts & crafts
- Tours of Cleveland Sight Center
- Raffle Prizes and Snacks/Beverages

Thanks for your continued support of CSC!



# WHITE CANE WALK



White Cane Walk logo

## **Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:**

-CSC engaged a team from the Sight Center of Northwest Pennsylvania for a site visit and information session at the agency this week. The group was interested in learning about CSC's operation and practices in the Low Vision Clinic, Billing/Fiscal, Occupational Therapy, Eyedea Shop, Rehabilitation Services, Development and Marketing/Special Events. Thanks to Larry Benders, Dr. Lidija Balciunas, Steve Frohwerk, Karen Bain Hiller, Susie Meles, Barbara Piascik, Debbie Ruffin, Dr. Annalisa Schloss and Erin St. Denis for their time with each of the visitors on this collaboration.

-CSC welcomed two new BSVI counselors from the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Akron/Canton office on Wednesday. The counselors spent the day with CSC, meeting with Rosalie Daley, Jim Hlavaty and Bryan Manthey to discuss services for adult clients, touring the agency and visiting the Eyedea Shop with Alicia Howerton. They then cooked under blindfold with Annette Jakse, making grilled cheese sandwiches, French fries and chocolate chip cookies before completing their day with a Talking Typer software lesson given by Jennifer Dean. They left with a wealth of knowledge and large smiles. Thank you to all who participated!!!

-Nicole Kahn spent time talking with and answering questions from a group of sophomores from Hawken School who reached out to CSC to learn more about disabilities in the workplace, employment services and job seeking challenges faced by those with disabilities. The students are preparing a report for their "Encountering the Other" intensive.

-The Outreach team engaged two separate classes from Hawken School this week, as a group visited on Monday and Thursday for an agency overview and tour, sighted guide training, assistive technology overview, and then performed tasks and played games under blindfold.

-Tom Sawyer represented CSC at the City of Cleveland Senior Day at the Huntington Convention Center on Tuesday, distributing information about programs and services to the over 2,000 people in attendance.

-The Outreach team presented the “Tips Talk” at the City of Independence’s Community Center Wednesday evening and concludes the week with a Friday morning “Tips Talk” and agency overview to the Eldercare Professionals networking group meeting at The Laurels of Chagrin Falls nursing home facility.

-Volunteers from Omnova Solutions spent time at CSC this week helping assemble a “braille by sight” activity for the upcoming Parade the Circle extravaganza on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. A shout out to volunteers who supported to help prepare for this exciting community event!



Omnova Solutions volunteers in front of the CSC front lobby sign

## **What's Happening at CSC:**

-Students in the Beginning Braille class had their graduation ceremony at CSC on Tuesday. The graduates were very excited to complete the course and apply what they've learned. Some quotes from the graduates included:

“This class was a learning experience and a challenge. When I started I didn't know A was dot one. Now, not only do I know the alphabet, but I can read and put words together. It's not as scary anymore.” – Terry

“Losing my sight and independence was very hard for me. Learning braille helps me still communicate and be an active member of society” -Wanda

“We could not have a finer person than Annette as a teacher. She does not hesitate to go over anything we have questions about and treats us as individuals and as though we have a purpose.” – Wanda



Annette Jakse reads a certificate in braille



Instructor Annette Jakse with the graduates proudly displaying their certificates

-Volunteer Services is currently recruiting for multiple one-time volunteer opportunities at events like Winners Club on Thursday May 30<sup>th</sup>, White Cane Walk on Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> and Parade the Circle on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>. During these events, staff and volunteers will have the opportunity to lead engaging outreach activities and connect with clients of CSC to support their participation in fun programs and activities. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering or learning more about helping with these events, contact Manager of Volunteer Services Melissa Mauk ([mmauk@clevelandsightcenter.org](mailto:mmauk@clevelandsightcenter.org).)

-Congratulations to this year's class of graduates from CSC's Bright Futures Preschool! Students, parents, family and friends enjoyed the end of the 2018-2019 school year ceremony which featured songs, diplomas, a presentation of the school year in a nutshell and awards for the students. Thanks to all CSC staff members who attended and thanks to Board Members Fred Jones, Dr. Ronald Posner and Beverly Roach for joining the ceremony.



Preschool students lined up for the start of the program



The full audience enjoys the program

-Karen Jones, Bright Futures Classroom Assistant since 2009, has seen her last class of preschoolers graduate. She has retired to spend some quality time with her husband and family and hopes to travel and enjoy a life of leisure. Congratulations to Karen...she will be missed!

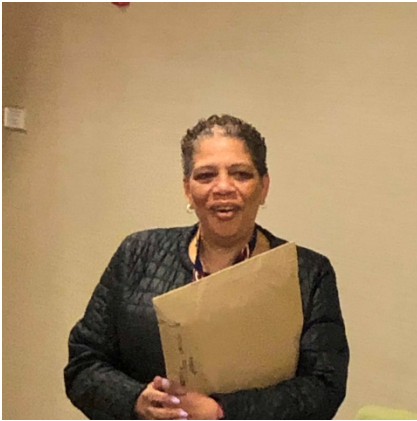


Photo of Karen Jones



Cake that reads "Enjoy Your Retirement Karen!"

-At Highbrook Lodge, we love to get out and explore! Highbrook Lodge offers summer camp activities for all ages that include wildlife, conservation, camp outs, and of course, hiking! Find more information or to register click [here](#) or call Jenny (216-791-8118).



Campers and staff exploring a wooden totem carving while on a hike in the forest. Text says 'Register Today! Highbrook Lodge'

-The Braille Notes Choir performed at Abington Arms Apartments on Wednesday evening as the group sang over 10 songs and captured the audience with soulful performances. Truly a treat for everyone involved.



The Braille Notes Choir performs

-Come one – come all! The White Cane Walk raffle baskets will be on display for staff viewing and ticket purchasing on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week. Baskets include a lottery ticket extravaganza (times 2!!), Ohio wine and cutting board, spring cleaning bucket, fist full of gift



cards, handmade children's quilt and stuffed animal, picnic fun and other surprises. Tickets will be available at the regular raffle ticket prices (1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, 13 for \$10) in Children & Young Adult Services May 29, 30 & 31.

-Winners Club will meet at CSC on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> and will feature a performance by the Music Group that meets at CSC on the first and third Tuesdays (4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.) of every month. Volunteers are needed for this lunchtime event, mainly from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Duties include assisting with serving lunch to attendees and being available to assist CSC clients throughout the program. Contact Melissa Mauk (216-791-8118) if you can assist or know anyone who can help out.

-Dr. Mark Bobofchak and Betsey Hallenburg from Eye Care for Animals will be at Cleveland Sight Center to conduct eye exams for service dogs on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Please notify Lorie Marsalis (x8768) if your dog will be participating. Please share this information with clients who have guide dogs.



**ACVO/StokesRx**

Logo for National Service Animal Eye Exams

### **Eyedeas Shop's Product of the Week: Clearance Sale Reminder!**

-The clearance sale continues in the Eyedeas Shop...a few new items have recently been added, so stop in and save on an item you may have had an "eye" on. The 2019 Large Print Wall Calendars are now reduced in price to \$7.00! Limited quantities of items remain and all sales are final please.



Clearance items on sale in the Eyedea Shop