



## Keeping You “In the Know...” 8/17/18

### What’s Happening at CSC:

- Over 60 teachers, educators and school staff members who will work with students who are blind or have low vision in the upcoming school year attended last Friday’s “See What’s Possible” workshop hosted by Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS). Of the evaluations received at end of the day, more than 90% rated the day as “Very Good” or “Excellent” and 100% rated the day as “Good” “Very Good” or “Excellent”!

### Some of the comments received:

- “Thank you for the motivation to try new things!”
  - “You are a very knowledgeable team – thank you sharing your knowledge”
  - “Thank you – I will continue to keep coming every year”
  - “This workshop was well organized and extremely informative”
  - “The staff (at CSC) are all helpful, friendly and encouraging – make the participants feel empowered”
- Randy Knapp and Erin St. Denis presented technology training to CSC staff members this week that covered an introduction to low vision and blind accessibility features of the iPhone. Many topics were covered including settings such as font size and bold, accessibility features like camera as a magnifier, zoom and contrast, an introduction to voiceover and some helpful and useful apps like paper currency readers and color identifiers. For more information on upcoming trainings, contact Susie Meles (216-791-8118).



Erin and Randy presenting



A display of various apps on the screen



Erin demonstrates the paper currency reader app

- Did you know that CSC has certain types of Funds available designed to provide clients with financial assistance? Four major Funds exist to assist clients receive services and goods. The Prentiss Fund, Empowerment Fund, Senior Independence Fund and Heyman Empowerment Fund provide different funding options relative to low

vision aids, assistive technology products, training of seniors and people over the age of 55, and work-related skills and training. In an effort to get these dollars to more clients, the 10% client responsibility payment will be waived for the next four months. Contact Kevin Krencisz (216-791-8118) with any questions about these Funds.

- Bright Futures Preschool begins on Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> with half days through Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. After being closed for Labor Day, school resumes with the whole day program starting Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. For information on preschool, contact Sylvia Snyder (216-791-8118).

### Educating and Engaging the Community:

- Alicia Howerton and friend of CSC Lisa Cellura presented the “Blindness Basics” program to all volunteers at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park on Tuesday, in an effort to make park programs and services more accessible. Alicia Howerton and Tom Sawyer presented the “Blindness Basics” program to multiple groups of first responders and disaster relief services staff members at Case Western Reserve University on Wednesday. Alicia and Tom met with the Wadsworth Senior Networking Group on Thursday to discuss CSC’s programs and services and Karen Seidman, who is an emergency planning consultant who is preparing materials for those with vision loss.
- Alicia Howerton, Sherry Raymont and Tom Sawyer met with Kara Bull, organizer of an upcoming community Tactile Carnival, to discuss CSC’s role in preparing for and participating in the event. The Tactile Carnival will be held at The Cleveland Museum of Art on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.
- Louise Miller represented CSC and conducted vision screenings at the Ashtabula Head Start Health Fair and the Lake County Health Fair, screening over 100 underprivileged children.

## This Week in the Eyedea Shop:

- They're back...by popular demand! Jumbo pens in assorted colors are the featured product of the week. A great gift for a pen collector or just a fun gift for anyone on your gift list. The ink inside is NOT bold or dark but that of a regular ball point pen. The cost is \$3.50 per pen.



Jumbo pens in pink, yellow, blue, purple, green and red

- Remember that the Eyedea Shop still has some clearance items available for sale...so stop in. There may be an item you just can't live without!

## Items of Note:

- ReelAbilities Film Festival is the largest festival in the US dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with different disabilities. Initiated in NY in 2007, the festival presents award winning films by and about people with disabilities in multiple locations throughout each hosting city. Post-screening discussions and other engaging programs bring together the community to explore, discuss, embrace, and celebrate the diversity of our shared human experience. ReelAbilities Film Festival is coming to Cleveland for the first time in September 2018. Through a collaboration

of 11 local organizations and community volunteers, the ReelAbilities Film Festival Cleveland will showcase films at venues throughout Northeast Ohio. Four screenings will take place between September and November. To read more information, [click here](#).

- Did you know that if you shade your air conditioner it can increase its efficiency 10%? You need to just make sure there is at least three feet of clearance for good air flow to provide enough air circulation. For more information on energy saving tips, [click here](#).
- Preventing gum disease may help avoid Alzheimer's - Delta Dental. Researchers believe gum disease is a sign of inflammation, which may play a role in the destruction of brain cells. Regular dentist visits are important for prevention of gum disease. ... However, prevention begins at home. Brushing and flossing twice daily, eating right and avoiding tobacco will help prevent gum disease. To read more, [click here](#).
- CSC's annual fundraising gala, Spellbound, will be held on Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at Windows on the River in downtown Cleveland. This year marks the 32<sup>nd</sup> year for the event and will feature guest speaker Rebecca Alexander ([www.rebalexander.com](http://www.rebalexander.com)). Rebecca Alexander is an author, psychotherapist, fitness instructor, volunteer and extreme athlete who, due to Usher syndrome type III, is almost completely blind and deaf. Consistently upbeat, Rebecca gives encouragement and inspiration to others who are facing their own challenges, whether physical or emotional, in interpersonal relationships or in the workplace. She has been featured on The Today Show, NBC Nightly News, The New York Times, USA Today and more. For additional information, [click here](#) or contact Steve Frohwerk (x4562).



Photo of Rebecca Alexander

### Did You Know?

- “Rhythm” is the longest English word without a vowel.