

Keeping you “In the Know...” 4/24/15

Terminal Tower to Light Up Like a White Cane:

As part of raising awareness for this year’s White Cane Walk & 5K Run (June 20th at Legacy Village), the Terminal Tower in downtown Cleveland will be lit up in white lights with a red tip on Monday, April 27th! According to Tower City, approximate lighting times for the day are 4:00am to sunrise and five minutes after sunset to midnight.

In addition to this week’s online promotion of this tremendous opportunity using the CSC website and social media properties, the AR&D team will engage in the following activities on April 27th:

- Steve Frohwerk will be on WTAM 1100’s “Wills & Snyder in the Morning” show to talk about CSC and the White Cane Walk & 5K Run.
- Meghan Hanrahan will attend the Cleveland Indians game, take photos of the Terminal Tower from the ballpark, visit the Tribe’s TribeLive social media suite and post CSC-related content to CSC’s social media properties. The Indians will re-post and re-tweet to their 298,000-plus social media followers.

Follow the Terminal Tower’s Twitter page [here](#) for updates and get those cameras ready...be sure to spread the word about this exciting exposure for CSC!

OOD Visits Cleveland Sight Center:

Representatives from Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) visited CSC on Wednesday, April 22nd. Mindy Duncan, the head of the Bureau for Services for the Visually Impaired (BSVI) and Elizabeth Sammons learned about CSC’s programs and efforts in adult literacy, Braille literacy, call center operations and employment initiatives. CSC was represented by Larry Benders, Paul Rosenberg, Dr. Anthony Easley, Jassen Tawil, Mary Jo Chisnell, Alexis Vinick, Marjorie Pyles-Hearst, our liaison with Cuyahoga Community College, and Dr. Steven Friedman.

Exploring New Opportunities and Strengthening Partnerships:

CSC recently applied to become a waiver provider for the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities. Those with an Individual Options (IO) Waiver can apply for services such as obtaining aids and appliances, transportation and camp. Services provided through this waiver allow people to stay in their homes and get support rather than living in an Intermediate Care Facility. Thanks to Charlotte Fornal, Debbie Ruffin, Joel Zureick, Susie Meles and Greg McGrath for their work on this opportunity, which will open a new market of people we can serve as well as identify another source of Medicaid funding for the agency.

Over 27 participants and 18 adults from various areas across Ohio attended Camp Hubble Day, sponsored by NASA Glenn Research Center, at CSC on Saturday, April 18th. The interactive program for middle school students celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Hubble Telescope and featured activities with over 10 NASA scientists, engineers and volunteers. Other organizations in attendance included the Ohio Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, which provided tactile representations of various constellations.



Participants explore a tire from a lunar vehicle session



Participants answer questions during a session

The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio held its annual fundraiser on Tuesday, April 21st. Attending on behalf of CSC were Barb Piascik and her husband Eric, Greg McGrath and his wife Patti, Lindsey Lowe, Marcia Houston and Dr. Steve Friedman. Throughout the evening there was much public appreciation for the assistance CSC has provided Toledo over the past year, including consulting to set up their retail store and recruiting campers for Highbrook Lodge. Many members of their Board of Trustees came over to CSC's table to show their appreciation and thanks. Following CSC's initiative, Toledo raised funds for their own Empowerment Fund to help make adaptive aids affordable. It was a great evening for them and CSC is very proud of this partnership.

CSC Receives Grant from the McGregor Foundation:

The McGregor Foundation, which supports seniors in need and those who serve them, awarded CSC with a \$15,000 grant to be used for adaptive skills training and support for seniors with vision loss.

Register Now for White Cane Walk & 5K Run:

Register now for this year's White Cane Walk & 5K Run, held at Legacy Village in Lyndhurst on Saturday, June 20th! The event is presented by the Association of Indian Physicians of Northern Ohio and through a generous challenge grant from the SWP Foundation, the first \$30,000 raised this year will be matched dollar for dollar!

For details, click [here](#) to access the White Cane Walk & 5K Run website, built on a new user-friendly fundraising platform called CrowdRise. Register as an individual, start a team or join an existing team to make this year's event the most successful to date!

Educating the Community:

Tom Sawyer participated in the 2015 Ohio AT Vendor Fairs sponsored by State Support Regions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and OCALI (Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence) this week. Together, this group serves all of the school districts in the northwest, southwest and southeast regions of the state. The events were held on April 21st in Huron/Sandusky, April 22nd in Rootstown, April 23rd in Columbus and April 24th in Cincinnati. The events were advertised directly to all of the districts served and across the entire state through Ohio Department of Education networks and to

parents within these regions. Participants included special educators, general educators, related service personnel, administrators and parents of the 14 regions.

Lisa Cellura presented the Aging Eye program to Cedar Center Apartments Senior Group on Wednesday and Euclid Hills Villa Senior Group on Thursday.

Susie Meles presented the Independent Living program and services for seniors at the Low Vision Fair held at Independence Village in Avon on Friday. Barb Piascik also attended with a display to promote the Eyedea Shop.

Springtime Recreation Activities in Full Swing:

Desmond Kennedy hosted an Open House on Saturday, April 18th which introduced 15 new people to CSC's Recreation programs. The team welcomed over 100 guests at Thursday evening's final gathering of the Lerner College of Medicine Devising Healthy Communities program. The golf season gets underway Tuesday, April 28th with the Tee Off Banquet, to be attended by 40 golfers and volunteers in the Clyde E. Williams, Jr. Auditorium. Below are some photos of tandem bike and hike program (April 18th) and rowing instruction (April 19th).



Tandem bikers side-by-side



Tandem bikers front and back



Brooke Dowdy practices rowing from the dock

Coaches and volunteers instruct rowing

CARF Corner:

CARF is the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and its mission is to promote the quality, value and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of persons served.

The dynamic nature of continuous improvement in a CARF-accredited organization sets it apart from other organizations providing similar services. CARF-accredited organizations share and provide the persons served and other interested stakeholders with ongoing information about their actual performance as a business entity and their ability to achieve optimal outcomes for the persons served through their programs and services. Tune in next week for important points and questions that will speak to performance improvement.

Celebrating Earth Day and our Green Building:

With Earth Day being recognized Wednesday, April 22nd, we are proud of CSC's main building, which meets specific design and construction standards and is recognized as LEED Gold Certified. Some of our ongoing sustainability efforts include recycling stations throughout the building for cans and bottles, fluorescent lighting to reduce energy consumption, and the recycling of paper, shredded documents and used batteries.

Thank You Volunteers!

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is complete but not without lots of activity around CSC. Last week alone, volunteers supplied 153 hours, a value of \$3,450 to the agency! Thanks to all board members, staff and volunteers who so willingly give their time and talent to the agency and clients.

Items of Note:

Five new Customer Service Representatives began in the Call Center this past Monday, April 20th. Let's welcome Min Joo Bruening, Lanea Hall, Nicole Pedone, Angel Santana and Amber Wallenstein to CSC!

Crain's Cleveland CIO of the Year Finalist Mike McManamon appears with his wife, Hayley and Marcia Houston in the event's photo gallery found [here](#).

A federal judge has ruled that popular ride-sharing service Uber must defend against a lawsuit accusing the company of discriminating against people who are blind by refusing to transport guide dogs. Click [here](#) for the article.