

Celebrating Ten (and Tin) Years!

- Did you know tin/aluminum is the traditional gift for a 10-year anniversary? CSC’s White Cane Walk & 5K Run celebrates “10 Years Walking” this year...are you going to be there? Come check out how much the celebration has grown since the first White Cane Walk held in 2006 as we showcase our agency and the impact we make.
- Start your fundraising team or make a donation to an existing team today by [clicking here](#).

Strengthening Partnerships:

- A group of 12 volunteers working with CSC’s Share The Vision peer mentor program participated in training on Tuesday, June 9th. The training was conducted by Share the Vision Coordinator Moreed Kamal, Manager of Social Services Jim Hlavaty and Nicole Clevenger of Case Western Reserve University’s Center for Evidence-Based Practices (CEBP).

Share The Vision volunteers are individuals who are blind or have low vision and provide peer counseling by phone to CSC clients who have experienced a recent onset of blindness or vision loss. Most Share The Vision clients are older adults who have limited incomes and few resources. Volunteers help clients understand how to use CSC and community resources to achieve independence and full participation in their family and community despite their vision loss.

The participants voiced enthusiasm for the opportunity to learn skills that will help them as Share The Vision volunteers. Additional training continues on Monday, August 3rd.

- Cleveland Clinic’s Cole Eye Institute is preparing for their first Argus II retinal implant surgery. As part of the preparation, several CSC staff members participated in a training conference provided by staff of Second Sight Medical Products, Inc. of Sylmar, California, the manufacturer of the Argus II retinal prosthesis. CSC staff members learned how to conduct the pre-operative assessments for Cleveland Clinic’s first retinal implant patient.



Members of the Argus II implant team with Larry Benders

Engaging and Educating the Community:

- Lisa Cellura consulted with the Western Reserve Historical Society about improving accessibility of museum exhibits on Monday, June 8th. Lisa and Mary Jo Chisnell will visit the museum next week to tour the exhibits and consult on accessibility.
- The Orange Low Vision Support Group held its annual picnic on Tuesday, June 9th with 24 attendees. Among those included Lisa Cellura and Board Trustee Priscilla Hoag.
- Tom Sawyer showcased assistive technology devices at the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging Senior Expo at Great Northern Mall in North Olmsted on Wednesday, June 10th.
- Friend of CSC Ed Oberndorf (husband of Board Trustee Caroline Oberndorf) brought 10 guests for a tour and luncheon at CSC on Thursday, June 11th. Ed has brought multiple groups into CSC over the last couple months using this format. Thanks for the great idea and continued support, Ed!
- Lisa Cellura, Alicia Howerton, Megan Koeth and a contingent of volunteers will represent CSC on Saturday, June 13th at Parade the Circle. Visitors to Circle Village will be exposed to various sports activities without using their eyes, including corn hole, golf, beep ball, hula hoops and jump rope. Stop over if you are at the Parade!

From the Consumer Council:

- Question: Are businesses allowed to charge a cleaning fee to customers who have service animals?

Answer: No. Businesses cannot ask or require an individual with a disability to pay cleaning fees, even if people with pets are required to pay these fees. Service animals are not pets. If you normally charge individuals for the damage they cause, you may charge an individual with a disability for damages caused by his or her service animal. Service animals must be housebroken and under the control of the owner at all times.

Technology Corner:

- Freedom Scientific offers free webinars on using Facebook and online shopping sites with JAWS. [Click here](#) for more.
- Consumers on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) can receive a Computers for the Blind computer for \$40 through a grant from the Delta Gamma Foundation.

Computers for the Blind (CFTB) a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization located in Richardson, TX is pleased to announce the receipt of a generous grant from the Delta Gamma Foundation to provide 75 accessible desktop computers and monitors for \$40 to persons who are on SSI due to their blindness. The regular fee for a desktop is \$110. Laptops are \$160.

These refurbished computers come installed with the following accessibility software:

- NVDA Screen Reader www.nvda-project.org/
- JAWS Screen Reader www.freedomscientific.com, (FS) trial version
- Licensed copy of MAGic w/out speech Screen Magnification software valued at \$395 by FS
- TypeAbility Typing Tutorial, www.yesaccessible.com, trial version
- Larger monitors for those with low vision

For questions or to request a computer contact Computers for the Blind at 214-340-6328 or info@computersfortheblind.net. Go to www.computersfortheblind.net for details on computer specs and additional free software.

Shipping is free and computers are generally mailed within one week of receipt of \$40 check and award letter from the Social Security Administration (SSA) showing proof of SSI based on blindness.

CFTB also received a grant from the Delta Gamma Foundation to provide 25 TypeAbility Typing Tutorial licenses for \$25.00 each for CFTB consumers. These retail for \$150 and are normally available to CFTB consumers for \$50.00. To obtain a license, contact YesAccessible. Consumer will need to send them a check for \$25, a copy of their award letter from the SSA showing proof of SSI based on blindness, and their CFTB ID number found in “my documents” on their CFTB computer. www.yesaccessible.com, **626-358-5750**, info@yesaccessible.com.

Please note that consumers must choose between the computer grant and the TypeAbility Grant. Finally, only SSI recipients are eligible for the grants, not SSDI recipients.

Items of Note:

- Camp Manager Lindsay Lowe welcomes [Highbrook Lodge](#) summer staff for training beginning Sunday, June 14th.
- Thanks to Kaisal and Koyen Shah for visiting from Hathaway Brown School to provide “Acts of Kindness” for clients and staff. The “Acts of Kindness” were made by students and distributed to 20 agencies in the area including CSC.
- Porthouse Theater welcomes CSC’s audio description volunteers to their Sunday, June 14th performance of “A Little Night Music.”
- A guide dog in New York threw himself in front of a mini school bus to protect his owner. [Click here](#) for the full story. Also, [click here](#) for the story about two service dogs in Minnesota who have been honored with their pictures in the high school’s yearbook.