

Keeping you “In the Know...” 6/19/15

Be There or Be Square!

- Saturday is CSC’s White Cane Walk & 5K Run as we celebrate “10 Years Walking”! Are you going to be there to check out how much the celebration has grown since the first White Cane Walk held in 2006? Stop by with family and friends as we showcase our agency to the community. We appreciate your support and participation in this fun event and look forward to seeing you on Saturday at Legacy Village in Lyndhurst!

Strengthening Partnerships:

- Freedom Scientific, the premier manufacturer of assistive technology devices, had regional sales director Bill Kilroy at CSC this week. The CSC team of Larry Benders, Jassen Tawil, Tom Sawyer and Barb Piascik met with Bill Kilroy to review products, offerings and strengthen this partnership.
- The Argus II project with Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute has its first implant surgery scheduled for Friday, June 19th. CSC will play an integral role in the post-operative process through rehabilitation services and mobility training to the patient.

Engaging and Educating the Community:

- Lisa Cellura, Alicia Howerton, Megan Koeth and 10 dedicated volunteers introduced 1,000 people to CSC through games under blindfold at last Saturday’s Parade the Circle event.
- On Monday, June 15th Lisa Cellura and Mary Jo Chisnell trained the new staff members at Highbrook Lodge on blindness etiquette.
- The Cuyahoga County Board of Health held their annual Education Conference on Wednesday, June 17th in Independence. Over 100 food service operators, educators and sanitarians were in attendance. The Employment department, along with Lisa Cellura presented “Diversity in the Workplace.” In addition to presenting, Employment Services also had a vendor exhibit booth where attendees met with staff and received takeaway information. The Employment team was asked to present their presentation at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health’s annual meeting in August and at a State Conference in Columbus.



Sterling Garrett and Nicole Kahn at the exhibit booth Judy Post presents on “Diversity in the Workplace”

- Lisa Cellura and Mary Jo Chisnell consulted with Western Reserve Historical Society on Thursday, June 18th about how to improve accessibility in their permanent exhibits.
- Alicia Howerton hosts a group from the Lamplight Assisted Living Center in Maple Heights on Friday, June 19th for a tour and to learn more about the agency.
- All hands will be on deck Saturday at Legacy Village to show our community how they can live well with vision loss at White Cane Walk & 5K Run! Over 110 volunteers will be lending a helping hand!

Preschool Day Camp and Summer Youth Work Experience:

- The CYAS department kicked off summer activities this week with eight participants attending Bright Futures Summer Day Camp and six young adults participating in the Summer Youth Work Experience program.



Summer Youth Work Experience program participants Abby, Kathleen, Cam, Kaielyn, Juan and Sam

CARF Corner:

- Lisa Cellura joins Alexis Vinick, Charlotte Fornal, Susie Meles and Marcia Houston on the CARF Accreditation Team and will work with CSC associates to complete the application process and establish benchmarks and program measurements. Lisa has been instrumental over the last 20 years during the process to achieve this significant accreditation every three years.
- Vision Rehabilitation Services

Under Vision Rehabilitation Services, accreditation is available for the following Programs: Comprehensive Vision Rehabilitation Services; Orientation and Mobility Services, Vision Rehabilitation Therapy and Low Vision Therapy. Over the next few weeks, we will discuss at length each program description and some of the standards surveyors will review during a CARF survey session.

Comprehensive Vision Rehabilitation Services provide a comprehensive rehabilitation program, including skills acquisition, psychosocial adjustment and community integration for persons served. This is accomplished through a full-service continuum provided by residential and/or community-based blind or deaf/blind rehabilitation services. A comprehensive rehabilitation plan is developed to incorporate the person's expressed goals, identified needs as assessed by professional staff members and available community resources.

Part Two: Comprehensive vision rehabilitation services include not only direct services to those with changes in vision, but also services that result in the breaking down of barriers to community access. Public education and outreach activities increase the likelihood that persons with changes in vision will be aware of the services that are available to them; that their communities will be aware of the adaptations needed to provide equal access to information and resources; and that there will be a "level playing field" at school, work and at home..

Items of Note:

- A special thank you to Sandy Finley, Training and Development Specialist from National Industries for the Blind, for providing Practical Coaching training to CSC's management team and the four two-hour trainings for staff on communications from June 10th – 12th.
- Congratulations to the Cleveland Scrappers for their 2nd-place tournament finish at the 14th Annual Bolingbrook Beepball Bash, in Bolingbrook, IL just outside Chicago. Christian Keely, also known as "The Black Stallion," made his presence known winning an Offensive Award for 5th-highest batting average and Stanley Griffin Jr. took home another Defensive Award for 3rd-most putouts.



Cleveland Scrappers team photo



Christian Keely and Stanley Griffin, Jr.
wearing medals

- The University Circle Police Department held a swearing-in ceremony for new Police Chief Jim Rapicky on Sunday June 14th at Judson Manor. Chris Gruber represented CSC at the event.
- An article titled “Eyes on the Road: TORC Robotics Helps Blind Driver 'See'” can be accessed [here](#).