Keeping you "in THE" know.

Cleveland Sight Center

6/18/20

Cleveland Sight Center Recognizes Juneteenth; Agency Closed Friday

-Empowerment is a key value at Cleveland Sight Center. As Juneteenth (June 19th) is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery, Cleveland Sight Center will pause annually on this date and recall that there have been very difficult times in our country's past that are still with us today. Although each of us could say that the decisions of those difficult times in history were not ours to make, the consequences of those decisions are still with us today.

By acknowledging the past and taking the time to empower and educate others, as well as ourselves, we can have a better-informed present and make better choices for our future where race will never be a barrier to employment or advancement within our workplace or in our world.

Cleveland Sight Center will be closed on Friday, June 19th. We hope this added holiday helps us all to not only educate ourselves, but reflect on our past and celebrate Black culture and history.

CSC Department Spotlight: Case Management/Social Work Services (for Adults)

-After a client speaks with the Registration Department (review last week's In The Know for more information about Registration: http://bit.ly/2kuDBz6) they are then assigned to a case manager in the Social Work Services Department. This department is staffed by trained social workers who help the client go further in the process initiated by Registration. These social workers listen, assess, educate, refer and monitor. They listen to the client describe what their needs are and what their goals are. They assess client needs to determine what the best options are or resources available to meet the client's goals. They educate or provide information about Cleveland Sight Center resources as well as community services. They develop an individual service plan with each client to ensure the goals and the path to meet these goals are understood. They refer to these resources and make sure the process of completing the referral happens. They monitor the status of these services and make adjustments to the plan as needed to ensure the client is meeting his or her goals.

The following is an example of a recent interaction between a client and case manager. The client needed to share his anxiety over being completely blind during the COVID-19 crisis.

The case manager spent a great deal of time just listening. The client shared private experiences and struggles with a myriad of issues. Not only is the client blind, he is under the age of 30 and is seeking purpose and the possibility of working. With felonies on his record, this could be a huge barrier to securing employment.

Complete blindness and isolation, especially at this age, is a very real challenge. During the lengthy conversation, there was discussion about the possibility of having his felonies expunged utilizing available legal resources in Cuyahoga County. The client expressed sincere gratitude for the time spent talking about his difficulties adjusting to society being both blind and an ex-offender. The client also remarked about how CSC is a "no-judge" zone and is glad to have CSC as a support.

At the end of the conversation, he was assigned to a dedicated social worker to help him get the much-needed services we have to offer.

What's Happening at CSC

-The Social Work Services Department recently held a special combined group conference call of the TLC (Transitional Life Counseling) and TLC Plus groups on Friday, June 5th. A presentation was given over the phone by Detective Alanna Smith of the University Circle Police Department. Detective Smith spoke to clients about the increasing number of scams in the community, many of which are being done over the phone due to the increased number of residents isolating at home since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These scams have surrounded topics such as social security, utilities and stimulus checks. Detective Smith provided information about the scams as well as tips how not to fall victim to them. She answered questions from the group as well. TLC and TLC Plus members appreciated all the good information and we thank Detective Smith for sharing her time with us. For more details on the TLC or TLC Plus programs, contact Jim Hlavaty (x4678).

-Summer Youth Foundations, a new OOD (Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities) program option for young adults, began in a remote format earlier this week. Goals of the program are to provide the basics of career exploration and job seeking skills. This week, the participants discussed basic employment concepts, learned how and when to disclose disability and how to request work place accommodations. They participated in a simulation activity where they learned how to plan, promote and implement a new product or service.

-Beginning the week of June 22nd, The Leisure and Lifestyle Services Department will be unveiling some additional virtual programs for CSC clients. Some of the activities will include yoga, coffee chats, guest speakers and more! If you know of an interested client, please contact Vince Williams at vwilliams@clevelandsightcenter.org for more information.

-From art to dance, to music, exercise and more, CSC Volunteer Services is now recruiting individuals to share their talents and passions with CSC clients in order to keep them connected through virtual programming. If you know someone who would be a great fit for leading a virtual program, encourage them to complete CSC's Volunteer Activity Submission Form here: https://bit.ly/3eq9TBW or direct them to Melissa Mauk (x4581) for more information.

-The Children & Young Adult Services (CYAS) Department is excited to announce that their summer sessions for younger children begin next week on Monday, June 22nd with Melissa Kraus as the lead teacher for both the Bright Futures and ABCs programs. Playground time, individual therapy sessions and instruction will be provided either individually or in very small groups.

-Book Discussion Group's next session will be July 14th and will be a virtual tea party to decide on the 2020-2021 book readings. Come join the fun by expanding your love for reading! Need more information please contact Alicia Howerton at 216-658-4587 or by email at ahowerton@clevelandsightcenter.org to learn more.

Items of Note

-The annual Cleveland Sight Center Golf Classic, presented by Westfield, is planned for Monday, July 20th at Westfield Country Club. A modified schedule and format that years' past is in the works but we are excited to offer this annual fundraiser for CSC. To register as an individual golfer, foursome of golfers, sponsor a hole or make a donation to the event, click here:
https://www.clevelandsightcenter.org/golf-classic-registration
Contact Steve Frohwerk (x4562) for additional information.

-Are you interested in a face mask with the Cleveland Sight Center logo AND helping raise funds for CSC? Check out this opportunity organized by Andrea Marley in which a portion of all proceeds from the purchase of the face masks will be donated back to CSC. Click here for the link.
https://bit.ly/2Aj9Aud

-Amazon Smile customers can now support Cleveland Sight Center in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile:

-Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
-Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'
-Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process
*If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app, update your app. Learn more: smile.amazon.com

-The sidewalk on East 105th Street (on the CSC property side) remains closed as repair work is nearing completion. The Facilities department will keep informed of any updates and when the sidewalk is re-opened.

Did You Know?

-Africa is the only continent on Earth to have land in all four hemispheres, as both the equator and prime meridian pass through the continent.