

Viewpoint



Emcee, Q102's Natalie Jones

CABVI's First Ever Virtual Dining in the Dark

CABVI's fourth annual Dining in the Dark: A Virtual Experience on November 14th was a huge success! We honored this year's Barney H. Kroger Humanitarian Award winner A. Richard Thomas. Participants enjoyed an online auction, a wine raffle, and a bourbon raffle. Local celebrity Natalie Jones (from Q102) emceed the event and celebrity mixologist Mollie Wellman prepared a special Blue Moon cocktail. Virtual entertainment was provided by comedian Josh Sneed and local band, Motherfolk.

A few of our CABVI friends also joined in with their testimonials in support of our agency including Mona Morrow, Jon Curl, Kyle Inskeep, Paula Toti and Dave Lapham. We are pleased to announce that we raised over \$100,000 to help individuals adapt to vision loss.

Next year's Dining in the Dark will be held on November 20, 2021 at Hard Rock Casino Event Center from 6-10 p.m. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Aaron Bley at 513-487-4233.

2021 Winter Newsletter

Thank You to Our Dining in the Dark Sponsors!

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A Message From CABVI's Interim President/CEO, Dennis Dern

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been a lot of great things happening at CABVI. In this issue of Viewpoint, you can read about our fourth annual Dining in the Dark. Even though this year's event was held virtually, it was a great success as we exceeded our fundraising target by a healthy margin. Hats off to the Dining in the Dark task force for re-imagining how to hold this event virtually, and to all our sponsors and guests who gave generously to make the event a success.

CABVI has been providing remote services throughout the pandemic, including daily living skills, safe travel instruction, low vision services, access technology, and serving children who are blind or visually impaired. We began providing some in-person services in July with safe distancing practices in place. There has been an increased need for counseling, assistance in helping individuals to figure out how to access the unemployment system, and specific support to help people who are blind or visually impaired maintain their personal safety.

Our Industries Program recently completed an independent audit of its ISO processes and procedures and passed for continued certification. While not every customer may care whether we are ISO certified, I like to think of the ISO certification as a Good Housekeeping seal of approval and something that helps us to be a more efficient operation.

While the COVID pandemic has certainly created some challenges in the agency, our VIE Ability office supplies social enterprise and Industries Program have enjoyed record sales as a result of our ability to deliver high demand products like personal protective equipment, disinfectant products and acrylic dividers. Thank you to all the people that make CABVI an important part of our community – our employees, our clients, our volunteers, and our donors. It takes all of us working together as one team to empower those who are blind or visually impaired to seek opportunities for independence.



Custom Signs Are Available at CABVI!

CABVI offers ADA compliant, braille and tactile signage as part of our full-service sign center. We also offer a variety of indoor and outdoor customizable sign options, such as yard signs, banners and much more! Signs are available in a variety of sizes, colors, and materials such as PVC, corrugated, polymetal, and aluminum. We use the latest design, printing and cutting technology to produce high quality signs for all your business needs.

Shop signs today by visiting www.cabvisigns.org.

Photos: (top) Assortment of COVID-19 safety signs; (bottom) Life-size Braille Ale foam core sign at the Braille Ale launch party at West Side Brewing

Giving Tuesday Was a Success Thanks to YOU!

Because of the generous support of our wonderful community, we were able to raise over \$3,500 in just 24 hours!

The passion and care of people like you keeps CABVI going, and we hope we make you proud with how we pay these funds forward to benefit individuals with vision loss in the Greater Cincinnati area.

GI❤️**ING**
TUESDAY

Dec. 1, 2020



Coffee Talk

CABVI held its latest coffee talk on September 25th. The topic was about accessible technology. CABVI's Access Technology Specialist, Tim Schmidt introduced ZoomText, Jaws, built-in iOS accessibility, video magnifiers, and more.

Coffee Talks are free, open events for anyone affected by vision loss. Stay tuned for more events from our Vision Services throughout the new year to help you or someone you know adapt to vision loss.

Reverse Holiday Parade

CABVI's Early Childhood & Youth Services hosted a reverse Holiday Parade on December 5th. This event provided a safe and socially distant way for the younger clients of CABVI to celebrate the holidays, including visits with Santa, music time, take-home craft kits, and lots of fun giveaways.

Photos: (top) Breannah McNutt participating in Scout Bingo during CABVI's virtual Cane Quest event; (bottom) DeMarco Burks at the music station with CABVI's Music Specialist, Jennifer Ortiz at the Reverse Holiday Parade

2020 Cane Quest Event

Last autumn, CABVI hosted a fun, yet challenging orientation and mobility competition for students in grades 3 through 12 - Ohio Regional Cane Quest. The event was held virtually from September 26th through December 12th, and included interactive activities such as BINGO, Zoom dance parties, and mindfulness exercises on Facebook, with prizes delivered to the contestants' porches!



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