



**June 1, 2021**

### **Blind Center Annual Banquet Planned in June**

**Peoria IL** – A presentation by Leader Dogs for the Blind will be the highlight of this year’s annual banquet for the Central Illinois Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired (CICBVI), being held Thursday, June 24, at Mt. Hawley Country Club.

Leslie Hoskins, Outreach Services and Community Engagement Manager with Leader Dogs for the Blind will be the keynote speaker at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual banquet. The public is welcome.

The after-work, business-casual event serves as one of the Center’s most important sources of funding. In keeping with the Center’s mission, it strives to provide a meaningful social experience for the Center’s patrons who are blind or visually impaired, while offering an interesting and entertaining evening for guests.

The evening will feature dinner, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Events begin at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$100 per person. Ticket revenue supports programs and services meeting the educational, emotional, social and cultural needs of people who are managing uncorrectable vision loss living in Central Illinois. All proceeds flow directly to the Center.

Located in Peoria, the CICBVI is a nonprofit organization providing vital services and support to those facing challenges relating to uncorrectable vision loss. More than 100 individuals who are blind or visually impaired attend Center-related activities, including weekly open houses; monthly “Jam” sessions, which include a free meal and social activity; white cane training programs and Braille clinics; fitness and awareness programs; and social, educational and cultural events.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend this 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary event. Call 309-637-3693 or e-mail [info@cicbvi.org](mailto:info@cicbvi.org) for tickets or sponsor information. Tickets may also be purchased or donations made online at [cicbvi.org](http://cicbvi.org).

*(NOTE: For information or to schedule an interview, please contact the Center at 309-637-3693 or [cicbvi.org](http://cicbvi.org), or Darlene Violet, CICBVI Board Member, at 330-323-3582 or [groovym2@aol.com](mailto:groovym2@aol.com))*