



BCB BULLETIN

June 2023

2265 Harrodsburg Road, Suite 102 | Lexington, KY 40504
| info@bcbky.org | 859-259-1834

In addition to email, the BCB Bulletin is recorded and available for listening after the first of the month by calling 859-259-1834 and choosing extension 8; the abbreviated and updated BCB Calendar of Events is available at extension 9 after the 15th of the month.

It's Time to RSVP for BCB's Quarterly Membership Meeting!

BCB's second quarterly Membership Meeting is June 7 from noon until two. Meeting and menu details are in the calendar listing below. **Please register no later than noon on Monday, June 5, so we can order food for you.**

It's not too late to join BCB's 2023 membership! Membership in BCB is only \$10 a year and there are sponsorships available to cover the cost if needed. You can join or renew your BCB membership by [clicking through to our Web site here](#) and selecting the blue "Donate" button (please type "2023 membership" in the comment box). You can also mail a check to the office at 2265 Harrodsburg Road, Ste. 102, Lexington, KY 40504 and note that it is for your 2023 Membership or call 859-259-1834 to pay by credit card.

Have You Bought Your Tickets for the SEE Cruise?

The *last* SEE Cruise – BCB's annual cruise-themed fundraising event – will be embarking on June 25, from 4-8 PM at O'Neill's on Richmond Road in Lexington. There will be music (courtesy of popular local beach music band CONCH REPUBLIC), dancing and fun raffle items to vie for! Please plan to join us one last time for what has become a favorite event full of fun camaraderie and support of this organization, our members and clients. After our last cruise, we'll be moving on to another exciting fundraising event! Watch this space for updated details!


SEE Cruise Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Visit <https://BCBSEECruise2023.eventbrite.com> to buy yours!

We're Having an Open House!

You're invited

**BLUEGRASS COUNCIL
OF THE BLIND
OPEN HOUSE**

MONDAY | JULY 31, 2023 | 2 TO 6 PM
2265 HARRODSBURG ROAD, STE 102, LEXINGTON, KY 40504



You're invited to drop by our new headquarters for a quick tour of our new offices, refreshments, and an opportunity to say hello to our staff! You can stop in any time between 2 PM and 6 PM, Monday, July 31, 2023, at 2265 Harrodsburg Road, Ste. 102. If you will be using Wheels, a good time to schedule might be a 1:30 to 2 PM pickup and a 3 to 3:30 PM return. Unfortunately, Wheels passes cannot be reimbursed, as this does not fall under client services. RSVPs are not required, but if you know you're going to attend, please call the office at 859-259-1834 or email info@bcbky.org to let us know, so we plan accordingly.

Lexington Lions Club Bluegrass Fair Runs June 8-18

The 2023 Lexington Lions Bluegrass Fair returns to Lexington's Master Station Park June 8-18! The popular fair is not only a highlight of summer here in Central Kentucky but proceeds from the event fund the club's charitable endeavors, like their generous support of the Bluegrass Council of the Blind! We are so grateful for our partnership with the Lexington Lions Club and can't wait to enjoy the fair again! Hope you can make it!

Project Ricochet and Stockyards Bank Home Repair Forgivable Loan Program

Stock Yards Bank has partnered with Project Ricochet, Inc. in Fayette County to offer a \$90,000 loan pool for forgivable mortgages to those with low-to-moderate income to make home repairs, including replacing HVAC systems, doors, windows, roofing, siding, flooring or gutters, in addition to other energy efficiency upgrades, accessibility improvements and safety repairs.

The program is income-based and eligible participants must live in LMI and Majority Minority Census Tracts. Loans are 0% rate and 33% of each loan is forgiven in year one and year two. Year three forgives the remaining 34%, making the loan forgivable in three years. [If interested, please click this link to provide information.](#) The purpose of this form is to obtain contact information to pre-qualify your application for the Project Ricochet and Stockyards Bank - Home Repair Forgivable Loan Program (up to \$6000). Or call Melinda Golde, Director of Mortgage Banking, at (502) 625-9136. If you receive the loan, we will provide contractor options.

ACB Convention 2023 Registration Opens this Month

In-person and hybrid dates for the 2023 ACB conference and convention in Schaumburg, Ill., are June 30 through July 7, with Zoom-only sessions being held June 22 through 24. Registration for ACB members is \$35 and opens May 18 at 7 AM Central time. Registration for nonmembers is \$50 and opens open May 25. Registration closes Friday, June 16 at 10:59 PM

Central time. BCB members are also members of ACB. Non-members have the option of joining ACB as a member at large for \$10. You can register online at acbconvention.org, or by calling (651) 428-5059.

Catch up on BCB's YouTube Channel!

Did you miss any of BCB's meetings and seminars? You can find them on BCB's YouTube Channel. [Click here to access BCB's Channel.](#)

Calendar

June 2023

June BCB SAFE Space group for spouses and family members of people with low to no vision

Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Our SAFE Space group is open to spouses, significant others, roommates, parents, children or any other individuals who may be living with or concerned about assisting a person with a vision impairment. SAFE Space meetings are confidential and everyone in attendance is required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to participation and expected to be respectful of others. This is strictly a peer support group and any advice, recommendations or information shared are not necessarily the opinions of the Bluegrass Council of the Blind and are not to be intended as professional advice or counseling.

The SAFE Space group will be co-hosted by Dr. Susan Ament, BCB's Peer Support Program Manager, and Julie Jones.

Registration: Please contact Susan at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834, ext. 6, to register or if you would like more information about participating.

June BCB Community Outing - Cooking It up with Low to no Vision

Date: Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2:30 PM

Location: Fayette County Extension Office, Room A, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington

Please join us for this monthly series of free classes on healthy cooking and food preparation that will be accessible for people with low to no vision. Participants are encouraged to attend all seven sessions or as many as possible. We will prepare the food in class and there will be small portions to sample. Participants will also receive small giveaways after each class. Participants will need to provide their own transportation to and from the extension office; if using Wheels, BCB will reimburse your passes. **Registration:** Call BCB to register at 859-259-1834 and if you have questions you can contact Susan at extension 6 or email at susana@bcbky.org.

June BCB Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Time: Noon until 2 PM

Location: New BCB Headquarters (2265 Harrodsburg Rd, Suite 103, Lexington)

Agenda: We will open with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence. Following will be a roll call with each person introducing themselves. Information will be provided on the upcoming ACB annual convention in Schaumburg, Illinois. We will also tell how you can listen to many parts of the convention virtually.

There will be time for fellowship, ideas for organizing socials, and a chance to share your journey about vision loss or impaired sight. Your name will also be entered into a drawing for door prizes.

Wheels passes provided for those using Wheels to attend.

On the menu: Fried chicken, loaded mashed potatoes, and cherry cobbler from Critchfield Meats.

Registration: Please register at least one week prior but no later than noon Monday, June 5. It's not too late to join BCB's 2023 membership! Membership in BCB is only \$10 a year and there are sponsorships available to cover the cost if needed.

Lexington Lions Club Bluegrass Fair

Date: June 8-18, 2023

Location: Masterson Station Park

June BCB Assistive Technology Group Seminar

Date/Times: Thursday, June 8, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2 PM

Location: Virtual Only

Topic: Windows 11 Accessibility Features

Have you considered upgrading to Windows 11 and wondered about the new accessibility features? In this month's Assistive Technology Group Seminar, Sam will demonstrate the helpful accessibility features for the blind and visually impaired. Be sure to join the Zoom call and ask lots of questions!

Registration: Call the office at 859-259-1834 or email info@bcky.org to register. Remember, you can use a landline telephone, cell phone, computer or tablet to access the meeting via Zoom. Carrier rates may apply.

June BCB Mentoring Small Group

We offer two dates for the mentoring small groups: an in-person afternoon meeting and an evening virtual meeting.

Afternoon Mentoring

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2 PM EST

Location: New BCB Headquarters (2265 Harrodsburg Rd, Suite 102, Lexington)

To participate, contact Susan Ament at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834.

Evening Mentoring

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM EST

Location: Zoom meeting

To participate, contact Susan Ament at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834 for access information.

BCB's Last SEE Cruise Voyage!

Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023

Time: 4 PM until 8 PM

Location: O'Neill's, 2051 Richmond Road in Lexington

A wonderful evening of raffle prizes, music, dancing, food and fundraising!

Tickets on sale NOW at <https://BCBSEECruise2023.eventbrite.com>.

June BCB Lunch & Learn

Date: June 28, 2023

Time: Noon until 2 PM (1-2 by Zoom)

Location: 2265 Harrodsburg Rd, Suite 103

Speaker: Emily Elliott, Community Relations Manager of Lextran

Emily will talk about accessing the public bus and assistance available for finding your route, including using the bus stop at our new location. She will also update us on the latest concerning the operation of Wheels paratransit. Additionally, she will provide a recap of the Transit Planning 4 All Virtual Town Hall that was held May 9 to identify unmet needs and barriers to transportation for people with disabilities and older adults. We welcome Emily back to our group on topics concerning so many of us in our community. If you've registered for food distribution and you attend the meeting, you can pick up your groceries after the meeting.

Registration: Please register by noon Monday, June 26, by calling the office at 859-259-1834 or emailing info@bcbky.org. Remember, you can use a landline telephone as well as a cell phone, computer or tablet to access a Zoom meeting. Carrier rates may apply. Let us know if you will need Wheels passes for attending in person.

June BCB Food Distribution Home Delivery

Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Time: Between 3 PM and 6 PM EST

If you cannot pick up your food distribution at the monthly Lunch & Learn meeting and live in Fayette County, we can deliver your food distribution to your home.

Registration: To register for food delivery, call 859-259-1834 and press 1 to leave your name, street address and phone number, and state that you would like food delivered. If you are unsure of your availability, please only

call when you are certain of your arrangements to avoid confusion. If you have questions, please call the BCB office during normal office hours and press zero to talk with a staff member. If you need to make last-minute changes, it is most helpful if you can talk directly with a staff person, so that your message does not get missed. Thank you.

July 2023

July BCB SAFE Space group for spouses and family members of people with low to no vision

Date: Thursday, July 6, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Zoom

Our SAFE Space group is open to spouses, significant others, roommates, parents, children or any other individuals who may be living with or concerned about assisting a person with a vision impairment. SAFE Space meetings are confidential and everyone in attendance is required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to participation and expected to be respectful of others. This is strictly a peer support group and any advice, recommendations or information shared are not necessarily the opinions of the Bluegrass Council of the Blind and are not to be intended as professional advice or counseling.

The SAFE Space group will be co-hosted by Dr. Susan Ament, BCB's Peer Support Program Manager, and Julie Jones.

Registration: Please contact Susan at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834, ext. 6, to register or if you would like more information about participating.

July BCB Community Outing - Cooking It up with Low to no Vision

Date: Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2:30 PM

Location: Fayette County Extension Office, Room A, 1140 Harry Sykes Way, Lexington

Please join us for this monthly series of free classes on healthy cooking and food preparation that will be accessible for people with low to no vision. Participants are encouraged to attend all seven sessions or as many as possible. We will prepare the food in class and there will be small

portions to sample. Participants will also receive small giveaways after each class. Participants will need to provide their own transportation to and from the extension office; if using Wheels, BCB will reimburse your passes. **Registration:** Call BCB to register at 859-259-1834 and if you have questions you can contact Susan at extension 6 or email at susana@bcbky.org.

July BCB Assistive Technology Group Seminar

Date/Times: Thursday, July 13, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2 PM

Location: TBA

Topic: TBA

Registration: Call the office at 859-259-1834 or email info@bcky.org to register. Remember, you can use a landline telephone, cell phone, computer or tablet to access the meeting via Zoom. Carrier rates may apply.

July BCB Mentoring Small Group

We offer two dates for the mentoring small groups: an in-person afternoon meeting and an evening virtual meeting.

Afternoon Mentoring

Date: Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Time: 1 PM to 2 PM EST

Location: New BCB Headquarters (2265 Harrodsburg Rd, Suite 102, Lexington)

To participate, contact Susan Ament at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834.

Evening Mentoring

Date: Thursday, July 20, 2023

Time: 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM EST

Location: Zoom meeting

To participate, contact Susan Ament at susana@bcbky.org or 859-259-1834 for access information.

July BCB Lunch & Learn

Date: July 26, 2023

Time: Noon until 2 PM (1-2 by Zoom)

Location: 2265 Harrodsburg Rd. Suite 103, Lexington

Speaker: Leader Dogs for the Blind and Theresa Thomas, BCB's Executive Director

We will have a speaker from Michigan's Leader Dogs for the Blind talk to us virtually about their various programs with a focus on the expansion of their free Orientation and Mobility training. This O&M training can even be scheduled to take place in your hometown and help you navigate streets and sidewalks so you can more easily get to where you want to go.

Theresa Thomas, BCB's executive director will then speak in person on her experience of being matched with and receiving a leader dog from this school, and she will demonstrate some of the training techniques and commands with the help of Risa, her beautiful golden retriever leader dog.

Registration: Please register by noon Monday, July 24, by calling the office at 859-259-1834 or emailing info@bcbky.org. Remember, you can use a landline telephone as well as a cell phone, computer or tablet to access a Zoom meeting. Carrier rates may apply. Let us know if you will need Wheels passes for attending in person.

July BCB Food Distribution Home Delivery

Date: Thursday, July 27, 2023

Time: Between 3 PM and 6 PM EST

If you cannot pick up your food distribution at the monthly Lunch & Learn meeting and live in Fayette County, we can deliver your food distribution to your home.

Registration: To register for food delivery, call 859-259-1834 and press 1 to leave your name, street address and phone number, and state that you would like food delivered. If you are unsure of your availability, please only call when you are certain of your arrangements to avoid confusion. If you have questions, please call the BCB office during normal office hours and press zero to talk with a staff member. If you need to make last-minute changes, it is most helpful if you can talk directly with a staff person, so that your message does not get missed. Thank you.

BCB New Headquarters Open House

Date: Monday, July 31, 2023

Time: 2 PM to 6 PM

Location: 2265 Harrodsburg Road, Ste. 102, Lexington, KY 40504

Please stop by between the hours of 2 and 6 PM to say hi at BCB's New Headquarters Open House! We can't wait to show off the place!



If you would like to help support the BCB Bulletin and the vital services provided by the Bluegrass Council of the Blind, please visit www.bcbky.org/donate.