

"What I am looking for is not out there, it is in me." – Helen Keller

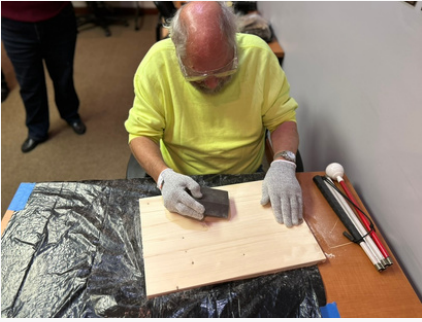


EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Impact Report

2024 Annual Report

Tool Time



ECVI is proud to launch Tool Time, a program designed to empower visually impaired people with essential life skills. Through hands-on activities, participants learn to safely use, build, and repair tools, fostering independence and confidence in daily life. By equipping students with practical knowledge, Tool Time enhances their ability to navigate everyday challenges with greater ease.



This initiative is made possible through the generosity and vision of board member Linda Reid, whose dedication has been instrumental in its creation and implementation. We also extend our gratitude to the American Business Club for their generous donation. Tool Time is a testament to how community support and innovative programs can transform lives and open doors to greater independence for people who struggle to see the world they live in.



2024 in Review



In Memory

We fondly remember students we lost in 2024 and the guide dog we all came to know so well



Jim Schoenherr (left)
Hank - John Hill's guide dog (right)
Don Achas
Arthur (Choma) Harris
Barbara Nelson
Ryan McOnomy



Thank You, Mary Thompson

ECVI would like to say thank you to Mary Thompson for her unwavering dedication and invaluable contributions to ECVI. Her volunteer efforts and compassionate service as a Personal Vision Coach have profoundly impacted the lives of those she assisted and taught. We deeply appreciate her commitment to empowering and inspiring the blind community with her kindness and expertise.



Meet the Board



(L-R) Front row: Rich Payne, Dan Yuhas, Rosemary Buffington, Linda Reid, Jack Schoonover.
(L-R) Back row: Jennifer Guillou, Phil Brooks, Tammy Harmony, Rose Connolly, Shawn Miller, and Larry Miller who presented white canes to our students.

Thank You, Donors!

Legacy Members: (\$5,000+)

Evelyn Brandt Thomas
Friends in Honor of Evelyn Thomas
Austin Apgar
King's Daughters Organization
American Business Club
Rochester Lions Club
Levi, Ray & Shoup Foundation
Anonymous Donor through CFLL

Ambassador Members: (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Joe & Lucia Hill
Lions of Illinois Foundation

Champion Members: (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Springfield Noon Lions Club
Stephen & Cynthia Baker
Busey Bank
US Bank
John Hill

Friends: (\$500-\$999)

INB
Multiple District 1-M Lions of IL
Knights of Columbus Quarter Auction
John Ulrich Foundation in Decatur
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Reid

Other donations

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Westlake
ECVI Board of Directors
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Denniss
Rotary Club of Midtown Springfield

2024
By the Numbers!

531
Students
Served

798
Volunteer &
Staff hours

Empower Campaign



The ECVI Empower campaign was a resounding success, raising \$4,070 to support vital programs for the blind. These funds will directly enhance initiatives such as white cane training (pictured), book club (pictured) and more empowering individuals with greater mobility and independence. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who responded to our call for financial support in 2024, ECVI can continue providing essential resources that make everyday living more accessible for the blind!

