

NEWS BRIEF

Casino Royale Charity Affair to Raise Funds to End Vision Loss

RAPID CITY, SD August 14, 2026 – Join the festivities at LifeSight’s fourteenth Casino Royale Charity Affair, a benefit to celebrate sight and raise funds to prevent vision loss, on Saturday, September 19, at the Hilton Garden Inn Rapid City.

Between 80% and 90% of blindness is preventable through a combination of education and access to medical care. For more than three decades LifeSight has worked to make a difference in the fight against vision loss through its mission to further eye education, sponsor free vision-related community outreach, and foster eye-related research to create a pathway for Vision. For All. For Life.

“LifeSight wants everyone to see well,” stated executive director Ronda Gusinsky, “whether that’s a toddler who does not know his or her vision is blurry, or someone economically disadvantaged whose access to eye care is unreachable due to financial or other concerns.” She further noted, “Our outreach fills a void in eye care that exists in the private and public health care systems and gives people with reduced financial resources and low access to health care a chance to regain their livelihood through restored vision.”

Dubbed a “Party with A Purpose,” Casino Royale, LifeSight’s only annual fundraiser, has contributed over \$350,000 in net proceeds to sustain this distinctive programming.

100% of funds raised at Casino Royale support free vision screenings to identify children with sight-threatening vision disorders, surgically restore sight for economically underserved individuals whose livelihood is endangered due to vision loss, provide no-cost eye exams and glasses to persons struggling to work because they cannot see to complete a job application or perform job tasks, underwrite educational scholarships for future ophthalmologists, and facilitate research on children’s vision and community eye care needs.

Casino Royale’s casual, casino-themed ambiance is filled with fun, music, lights, clinking chips, shuffling cards, and the laughter of guests, who with complimentary chips in hand, try their luck in challenging local celebrity dealers in classic casino games like poker, blackjack, craps and roulette. A mouth-watering buffet of elegant hors d’oeuvres and delectable dessert morsels awaits. And the raffle drawing and bidding on the unique auction collection bring excitement and the opportunity to contribute to the cause.

Casino Royale is presented by Title Sponsor, Slingsby & Huot Eye Associates, Major Sponsor, Monument Health, and Supporting Sponsors, Black Hills Energy, Courtesy Subaru, First Interstate Bank, Nooney & Solay, LLP, and Sanford Health.

Celebrate sight. Make a difference. To join the festivities, email your RSVP to Vision@LifeSightSD.org or call (605) 716-6733. RSVPs are appreciated by Friday, September 11, but not required. Doors open at 6:00PM. A donation of \$75 per person is suggested. LifeSight respectfully requests guests be 21 years of age or older.

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For information, contact Ronda Gusinsky, Executive Director, (605) 716-6733 or rgusinsky@lifesightsd.org.