

MISSION: To Prevent Blindness and Preserve Sight

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

Prevent Blindness is the nation's leading voluntary eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight.

The Ohio Affiliate of Prevent Blindness (PBO) has been serving all 88 Ohio counties since 1957, providing direct services to 1,000,000 Ohioans annually. PBO serves as a consumer advocate for eye health and safety and our main emphasis is to serve those at highest risk for vision loss—children, older adults and minority populations.

<u>Adult and Children's Vision Screener Training</u>- PBO provides vision screening training, equipment and certification to health care providers, social service providers, preschool-grade 12 professionals, senior care staff, and community groups. Vision screenings help to identify potential vision problems early when treatment is most successful.

<u>Vision Care Outreach</u>- The purpose of the VCO Program is to provide equitable access to professional eye exams, follow-up care, and eyewear to medically challenged children, youth, families and uninsured adults. The program serves those up to 200% of the federal poverty level. The goal of the VCO Program is to reduce the incidence of unnecessary vision loss.

HealthyEyes- Decreases preventable vision loss among older adults, thereby reducing the risk of falls & injuries, social isolation, and depression. PBO trains health professionals to provide aging eye health education, conduct vision screenings, and provide referrals for donated eye care for aging adults at high-risk for vision problems.

Aging Eye Public Private Partnership (AEPPP)- A collaboration of organizations, supported by the Ohio Department of Aging, that develops a strategic plan of action to address issues relating to vision care public policy, vision care services, vision education, and vision research that impact the quality of life for Ohio's seniors now and in the future. Ohio's AEPPP is led by the Ohio Affiliate of Prevent Blindness.

<u>Community Education</u>- Provides education on a wide variety of eye diseases, eye health, and safety topics through print, web-based & audio-visual materials, workshops, health fairs, workplace safety events, and museum and library exhibits.

Young Investigator Student Fellowship Award- Provides scholarships to graduate-level female scholars for scientific research investigating public health issues related to eye health and safety.

<u>Vision Advocacy</u>— Is the voice for all Ohio citizens regarding issues of vision health: The Save Our Sight Fund, Access to Vision Care and Coverage, Vision Related Research and Education, and Promoting Eye Safety.