

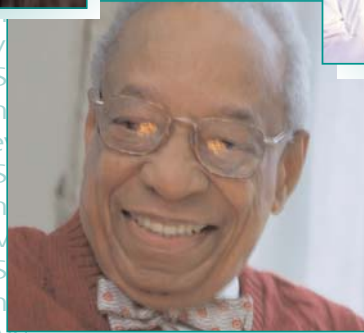
2004-2005



PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO  
"Helping Ohioans Enjoy Good Sight for Life"

# Annual Report

# Believe in Seeing



# A Message from the Board Chair & President

"Believe in Seeing" is the commitment that Prevent Blindness Ohio has because we "believe" that Ohioans value and appreciate their gift of sight...and want the tools and information that can help them preserve good sight for life.

Vision loss and visual impairment represent a significant human and economic toll on individuals, families and our society as a whole. An estimated **1.7 million Ohioans** have a potentially blinding eye disease and **142,655** have low vision. As the year 2030 approaches, and as the Baby Boomer generation ages, more than **2.5 million Ohioans** will be affected by glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration. As the workforce ages and workers remain on the job longer, the impact of aging eye problems to the economy and quality of life can be significant. **This burden to Ohioans is unnecessary because half of all of vision loss is preventable!**

Prevent Blindness Ohio "believes in seeing" because ...

- ◆ 80% of what we learn is through our gift of sight.
- ◆ Vision is critical to conducting activities of daily living, is a portal for language, and affects developmental learning, communicating, working, health, and quality of life.

- ◆ Vision impairment is one of the most feared disabilities. Based on a 2004 study published by the National Eye Institute, the total annual economic costs of visual disorders and disabilities in the U.S. and Ohio are estimated to be over \$67.5 billion and \$2.7 billion respectively.

- ◆ When it comes to eyes, we get one pair and no spare.

Last year, Prevent Blindness Ohio (PBO) provided 6,147 children and adults with access to donated comprehensive eye care (including professional eye exams, glasses and surgery). PBO trained and equipped 489 health care professionals and volunteers who provided vision screenings to over

600,000 children and adults. And, we educated millions of consumers about what they can do to protect and preserve their gift of sight.

Here's a summary of just some of our accomplishments, made possible through your generous support of time, talent and treasure...

## "BELIEVE IN SEEING" FOR CHILDREN

PBO is there at the very beginning to insure that the vision of Ohio children is healthy and protected from injury. We do this by providing vision screening training and equipment which enables thousands of volunteers and providers of primary health care to detect possible blinding eye diseases at the earliest stages, when they are most successfully treated. We educated over 100,000 Ohio children, teachers and parents last year about eye health and safety through four different educational programs including a curriculum for elementary classrooms, two exhibits that are visiting libraries and community centers across the state, and a cooperative effort with COSI (the Center of Science and Industry) which promotes eye safety in sports.

## "BELIEVE IN SEEING" FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

1.9 million Ohioans- one out of every six men, women and children - lack health insurance coverage. Last year 6,147 Ohioans were served by our Vision Care Outreach (VCO) program which provides access to free, comprehensive, professional eye exams, follow-up care, education and eyewear to medically indigent children, youth, families and homeless/uninsured adults. The ultimate goal of the VCO program is to reduce the incidence of vision loss and impairment by providing access to on-going, comprehensive vision care services.

## "BELIEVE IN SEEING" FOR SENIORS

Vision disorders and impairment are

major public health problems. It is estimated that by 2030, the number of blind and visually impaired people will double if nothing is done to curb vision problems, largely resulting from the eye diseases of diabetic retinopathy, cataract, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Prevent Blindness Ohio took the lead in a new, exciting education and collaboration-building initiative aimed at curbing vision loss in Ohio's aging population. In partnership with 20 statewide organizations, PBO advocated formation of a legislative Task Force to Preserve Adult Vision which will make recommendations for the State of Ohio to prepare for the growth of vision loss risk in seniors.

Throughout this annual report, we will highlight how we are bringing our "vision" to life through a wide range of programs and services in which Prevent Blindness Ohio and our partners reach Ohioans of all ages, helping each of them achieve a lifetime of healthy vision.

Thank you for "believing in seeing." Your important investment in PBO benefits the community where you work and live. Because of the generosity of our donors and partners, Prevent Blindness Ohio has been able to enhance the quality of life in your community by providing children and adults with the sight-saving programs they need and deserve.

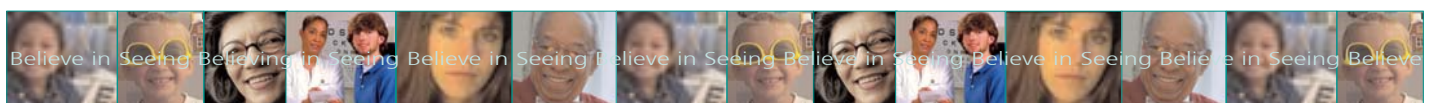
Sincerely,



Lawrence Leguire  
2004-2005 Chair, Board of Directors



Sherill K. Williams  
President & CEO



# PBO Serves Ohio Seniors

## Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership

As the year 2030 approaches, and as the Baby Boomer generation ages, Ohioans affected by vision loss will more than DOUBLE! More than 2.5 million Ohioans will be affected by glaucoma, cataracts, diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration. To address this growth in aging eye disease and vision loss, PBO and other organizations have facilitated the creation of Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership to develop 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. This Partnership is supported by an official Proclamation from the Governor's Office.

## New Sight Saving Programs Benefit Seniors

PBO, in partnership with the Aging Eye Public Private Partnership (AEPPP) has launched the following initiatives, programs and services to help Ohio seniors enjoy good sight for life:

## Senior Eye Health Website

Visit [www.preventblindness.org/ohio/agingeye](http://www.preventblindness.org/ohio/agingeye) to see a directory of Ohio vision research projects, download studies, fact sheets and news releases on the leading causes of vision loss among adult Ohioans.

## Legislative Task Force for the Preservation of Adult Vision

Passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 33, sponsored by PBO Board Member, Senator Steve Stivers, established a study group of Ohio legislators who are developing recommendations for how the State of Ohio can be best prepared to curb the growth of vision loss among its aging citizens.

## Vision Resources and Services for Older Ohioans

This comprehensive resource and referral directory is available free of charge from PBO. It provides contact information regarding professional eye care, reduced cost eye exams and eye-glasses, low vision assistance, eye care education, prescription drugs and aging/disability services.

## Statewide Vision Survey

Thanks to our partners at the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control, a survey of 6,000 Ohioans will provide new information and data regarding the scope of Ohio adults affected by vision problems and their issues/concerns regarding access to eye care.

## Senior Eye Health Vision Screening

With support from the AEPPP and the Centers for Disease Control, Prevent Blindness Ohio trained and equipped 107 providers of primary health care and aging network service providers to conduct vision screening for the patients and constituents they serve. Nearly 17,000 Ohio adults were vision screened and 3763 were referred for a comprehensive eye exam.

## By the Year 2030

Today, 71,113 Ohioans have AMD. By 2030, 142,226 Ohioans will have AMD.

Today, 879,217 Ohioans have Cataract. By 2030, 1,758,434 Ohioans will have Cataract.

Today, 216,861 Ohioans have Diabetic Retinopathy. By 2030, 433,722 Ohioans will have Diabetic Retinopathy.

Today, 91,884 Ohioans have Glaucoma. By 2030, 183,768 Ohioans will have Glaucoma.



Normal vision



Age-Related Macular Degeneration



Cataract

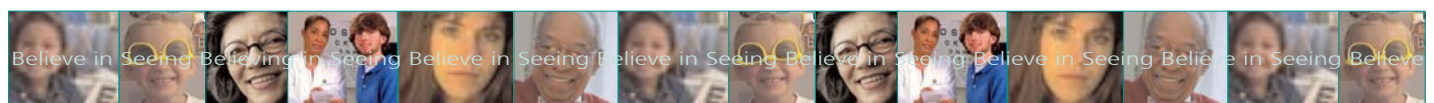


Diabetic Retinopathy



Glaucoma

(Source: Vision Problems in the U.S.- a study published by Prevent Blindness America in partnership with the National Eye Institute in 2002.)



# PBO Serves Ohio Children

This letter is to thank you for allowing our three Stebbins High School students to participate in your preschool vision screening training. They have assisted the school nurse with preschool and school aged students in our district. Today, they screened our new students registering for kindergarten. They were also able to use the information from Prevent Blindness Ohio in their Skills USA competition in Cincinnati this month. You would be happy to know that they received a gold medal and they will be going to Kansas City to compete in the National Competition. Receiving first place on their Vision Screening Showcase project was quite an honor. On behalf of Uswa Shahzad, Rachele Houser and Kristen Marra, thank you for the excellent training. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to saving sight and to your certified vision screening training.

Mary Norton  
School Nurse  
Mad River Local Schools

## Preschool Vision Screening Training

PBO's children's eye health and safety programs have taken giant leaps forward due to support from the Save Our Sight (SOS) Fund. The SOS Fund, administered by the Ohio Department of Health. It is supported through \$1+ voluntary contributions made by Ohioans renewing their motor vehicle registration.

Since 2000, Prevent Blindness Ohio has trained and equipped **4,135** health and childcare workers to become certified preschool vision screeners. Our corps of trained vision screeners served **576,018** Ohio children. With the addition of so many trained vision screeners, our hope is to one day vision screen every Ohio preschooler for potential vision problems and ensure that high-risk children receive an eye exam by an eye care professional.

Last year, PBO provided preschool vision screening training to **489** primary

health care providers and office personnel.

## Preschool Vision Screening Manual for Health Care Professionals

PBO worked in collaboration with Prevent Blindness America and the American Academy of Pediatrics to design a vision screening assessment



manual for primary health care providers. This manual provides professionals with the opportunity to improve their vision screening skills and their knowledge of common childhood vision disorders. In addition, healthcare professionals in the  
continued on page 5

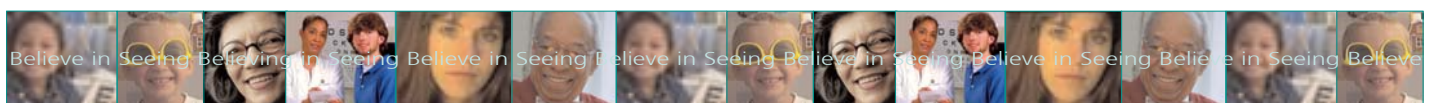
## Community Services Statistics

Eyes Saved	6,147*
Screening <sup>1</sup> and Detection	593,386/32,976
Infant and Preschool	
Screened/Referred	576,018/29,156
School-Aged Children	
Screened/Referred	426/57
Adult Screened/Referred	16,942/3,763
Public Education and Training	133,061
Professional Education and Training	733
Patient Services <sup>2</sup> (eye exams, glasses, professional services)	12,607
Public Awareness (literature, radio, TV, advocacy)	16,086,839

\*Prevent Blindness Ohio facilitated the donation of comprehensive eye care - a professional eye exam and glasses - for 6,147 children and adults.

<sup>1</sup>Only programs which include referral and follow-up are counted as screenings.

<sup>2</sup>Patient Services: There can be more than one service per client.



# PBO Educates Ohio Children

pediatric setting, will learn about CPT Reimbursement Code 99173 for vision screenings.

The Manual has been approved by the scientific and medical committees of both PBA and AAP and is now available to health care practitioners.

## Wise About Eyes

Made possible by funding from the Save Our Sight Fund, "Wise About Eyes" (WAE) is a hands-on, educational exhibit designed for children. Since its opening in fall 2000, the eye health and safety exhibit has educated more than **364,869** children and their adult caretakers in **19** communities throughout Ohio. Several of the components of WAE have been permanently placed at COSI-Columbus and the ExperiCenter in Miamisburg this year as we retire the exhibit from statewide travel and develop a new traveling exhibit for children.

The "Wise About Eyes" traveling children's museum exhibit visited Fairport Harbor Library and the Ernsthausen Arts Center in Norwalk in 2004.

Prevent Blindness Ohio distributed **140** "Play It Safe With Your Eyes" classroom curricula to educators in Columbus, Fairport Harbor, Painesville, Chillicothe, St. Paris, Gallipolis and Urbana serving **2,824** children.



*The hands-on, educational Wise About Eyes exhibit has reached more than 364,000 children, parents and teachers!*

**139** classrooms throughout Youngstown, Coshocton, Athens and W. Lafayette elementary schools serving **2,824** children.

## Wild About Eyes

PBO in cooperation with the Boonshoft

Museum of Discovery developed and premiered the "Wild About Eyes" kiosk. WAE, a 40 sq. ft. kiosk, was developed to reach smaller communities throughout the state such as local community libraries. WAE made its debut at the Franklin Springboro Library in Xenia in April 2004 and made trips to libraries in Gallipolis,



*The smaller spaces of public libraries across the state have been home to the Wild About Eyes kiosk.*

Chillicothe, St. Paris New Lexington and COSI Columbus. More than **58,889** children and adults enjoyed the exhibit in its first year.

## Vision On Wheels

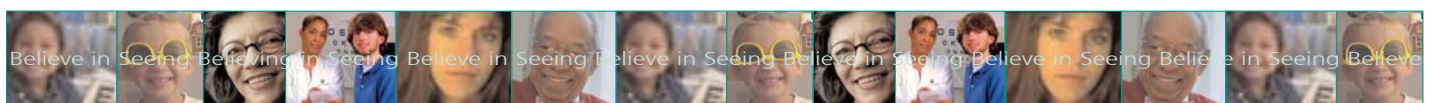
PBO, in cooperation with COSI Columbus, added 6 new eye safety elements to an existing "COSI On Wheels" education outreach program that is called Science of Sports. Last year, the Science of Sports program provided **60,867** students and teachers in **137** elementary schools throughout Ohio, the opportunity to explore the science of vision and the importance of eye health and safety practices through the use of live theater and hands-on activities.

## Kids Get Eye Exams

In 1997, the VSP Sight for Students Program was made available to PBO to provide access to eye exams and glasses to children up to 200% of poverty who did not have other insurance. Children in every county in Ohio have access because services can be provided by any one of VSP's 1200 providers across the state. Last year, **2,336** children were able to see more clearly because of this important partnership.

**J**oseph was the victim of a drunk-driving accident & as a result his vision was impaired. We had so many medical & legal bills to pay that we couldn't afford to buy eyeglasses for Joseph. The school nurse told us about Prevent Blindness Ohio & helped us apply for the program. Within 2 weeks, Joseph had his glasses! We were so happy that you could help us. Joseph is a straight-A honor student, and without his glasses he would have been lost. We always contribute to the SOS fund at the BMV, and will continue to do so. Thank you!

Lori Morrisey



# PBO Serves Disadvantaged Ohioans

Prevent Blindness Ohio's **Vision Care Outreach** (VCO) Program is recognized as the largest statewide "virtual" free eye care clinic in the country.

What makes it "virtual" is that Ohioans in need are matched to donated eye care services and products via an on-line tracking system developed especially for the Prevent Blindness Ohio program. When social service providers, from one of PBO's **830** partner agencies, contacts PBO with a client eye care need, we match that client with donated services available in their area.

Through the generosity of our friends in optometry and ophthalmology and in the vision industry, Prevent Blindness Ohio has assembled a system of donated eye care for Ohio's indigent.

This past year, PBO brought **6,147** clients through this comprehensive system of eye care which includes a

professional eye exam (donated by an optometrist or ophthalmologist), glasses (donated by a variety of optical companies) and surgery/aftercare

**PBO Eyeglass & Dispensary Donors**  
 Diversified Ophthalmics, East Central Neighborhood Health Center Vision Clinic, Essilor of America, EyeGlass World, Ft. Hayes Career Center-Optical Program, Interstate Optical, James Optical, LensCrafters, Sears Optical, Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, OSU College of Optometry, Rooney Optical, Select Optical, Toledo Optical, VisionMakers of Dayton, VSP Lab-Columbus, VSP and W.A. Jones Optical

(donated by eye care professionals in the local communities we served). These in-kind donations have a retail

value of nearly \$1.5 million annually. The goal of our Vision Care Outreach Program (VCO) is to provide access to comprehensive, professional eye care to indigent populations that need the care the most, but have no other way to get it.

The VCO program began in Columbus in 1990 and has developed networks of donated care in Cincinnati, Cleveland and Dayton since that time. The Toledo VCO program is just getting off the ground, thanks to a grant from the Toledo Community Foundation.

Vision Care Outreach programs are supported by: Saint Luke's Foundation of Cleveland, The Wallace Foundation, Toledo Community Foundation, National City Bank, Prevent Blindness America, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## 2004-2005 Board of Directors

For the period April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

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 Children's Hospital

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**Dr. John Corrigan**  
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**Burk Dehority**  
 Children's Hospital  
**Ed DeRojas**  
 Schneider Optical

### Michael Doty

Limited Brands, Inc.

### Luceille Fleming

JPMorgan Chase

### David Hammond

JPMorgan Chase

### Rick Hoffman

American Electric Power

### David Holmberg

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### Robert D. Labes

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### Dr. Mark Lomeo

Midwest Retina

### Chip Lothes

Select Optical

### Craig Mayton

State of Ohio

### Scott McHugh

Anheuser-Busch, Inc.

### Demetries Neely

Nationwide Insurance

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Optometrist

### Dr. Christopher Rizzo

MetroHealth Medical Center

### Press C. Southworth III

The Honorable Steve Stivers

Ohio Senate

### Patsy Thomas

Kegler, Brown, Hill and Ritter LPA

### Jewel Williams

CEOGC Head Start

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**Michael F. Curtin**

**William E. Hickman**

**Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton**

**John L. Marakas**

**John S. Michelman**

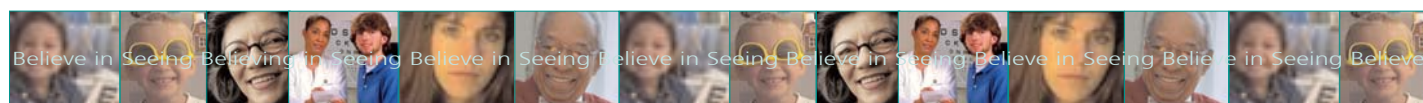
**J. Pat Ross**

**Brian Smith**

**The Honorable Patrick J. Tiberi**

**PRESIDENT AND CEO**

**Sherill K. Williams**

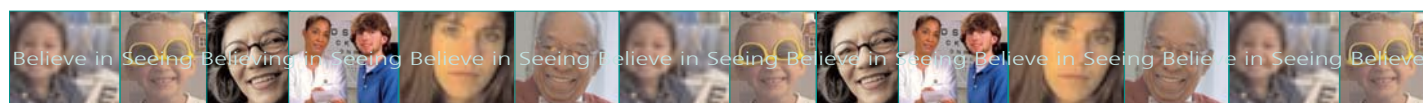


# PBO Partners in Prevention

Without volunteer professionals in the vision care field, Prevent Blindness Ohio would not be able to provide Ohioans with vital eye health and safety services. Eye care professionals serve in critical volunteer roles in these program areas: Donate eye exams, glasses, surgery and after-care for the medically indigent through our Vision Care Outreach Program; Serve as media spokespersons on a variety of eye health and safety issues of interest to consumers; Participate on our Board of Directors, Committees and at special events. They help govern PBO, provide direction and raise funds to support our sight-saving services; Partner with PBO on Save Our Sight programming which provides community education and training via the Wise About Eyes traveling exhibit, the Play It Safe With Your Eyes classroom program and PBO's preschool vision screening training and certification; Partner with PBO and the Ohio's Aging Eye Public/Private Partnership to provide expertise, resources and leadership to address the challenge of vision loss among our aging population.

Prevent Blindness Ohio recognizes these eye care professionals and researchers for volunteering their time and expertise:

Dr. Richard Abrahamson	Dr. Mark Hankin	Dr. Robert Newcomb
Dr. Carol Anderson	Dr. Elizabeth Hardin	Dr. Stephen Newell
Dr. David Anderson	Dr. Randall Harpring	Dr. Mark Orso
Dr. Rafat Ansari	Dr. Marc Hartig	Dr. Michael Parker
Dr. Philip Apfel	Dr. James Hater	Dr. Nimisha Patel
Dr. Keith Basinger	Dr. Charles Hickey	Dr. Robert Peets
Dr. Joseph Beaman	Dr. Sarah Hinkley	Dr. Malinda Pence
Dr. Kenneth Beckman	Dr. Stephen Hirt	Dr. Bernard Perla
Dr. Dave Bejot	Dr. Michael Hodovanic	Dr. Paul Puffenberger
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Dr. Jeffrey Capelle	Dr. Iain Kelly	Dr. James Sanitato
Dr. Steven Connett	Dr. Timothy Kenkel	Dr. Marie Schiff
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Dr. Michael Giovanetti	Dr. James Moenter	Dr. Steven Wilson
Dr. Joseph Giovanetti	Dr. Vincent Monnier	Dr. Todd Winkler
Dr. Terri Gossard	Dr. Michael Moorehead	Dr. Carol Wixom
Dr. Karen Grady	Dr. Karen Mullen-Weber	Dr. Debora Wright
Dr. Linda Greff	Dr. John Mullins	Dr. Sarah Yoest
Dr. James Grove	Dr. Bethany Munzel	Dr. Mark Zarembo
Dr. Donald Grutzmacher	Dr. Jeffrey Myers	Dr. Gary Zimmerman
Dr. Mark Hagee	Dr. Ram Nagaraj	
Dr. Stephanie Hagstrom	Dr. Joan Nerderman	



# PBO Advocates "Good Sight for Life"

**These aging eye diseases are a looming healthcare issue expected to affect 2.5 million Ohioans in the next 25 years. Often, these eye diseases have no noticeable symptoms in their early stages. And baby boomers, in particular, need to take preventive steps to protect their eyes. We know that blindness and visual impairment represent a significant human and economic toll on individuals and society. In order to ensure access to and availability of preventive care, treatment and rehabilitation services, it is necessary to promote awareness of the value of vision and its cost to society.**

Timothy Kern, PhD, Director of Diabetes Research Center, Case Western Reserve University  
Co-Chair of the planning committee for Ohio's first Vision Loss Prevention Research Symposium

## PBO Leads First of Its Kind Vision Research Symposium

Prevent Blindness Ohio and Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership hosted a first of its kind Vision Loss Prevention Research Symposium to address the expected increase of vision loss due to the four leading causes of adult vision loss: age-related macular degeneration, cataract, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma, Monday, June 6 at COSI-Columbus.

The number of Ohio seniors affected by these diseases is expected to double over the next 30 years as the Baby Boomer generation ages. More than 2.5 million Ohioans will be affected. Based on this doubling of vision loss in the next three decades, the cost of visual disorders and disabilities in Ohio can reach over \$9.4 billion annually by 2030.

The Symposium fostered collaboration among more than 150 vision researchers, clinicians, public health professionals, aging network professionals, bio-science funders and leaders from Ohio government and the bio-tech industry with a goal of accelerating the translation of vision research discoveries into the creation of Ohio health care products and services that prevent vision loss due to aging eye diseases.

By sharing information among these groups, Ohio will be better prepared for the early detection, treatment and rehabilitation services that will be needed to curb the growth of vision loss among Ohio's seniors.

Symposium sponsors were: Allergan, Kemin Health, KnowledgeWorks Foundation, Medical Ophthalmics, Novartis Ophthalmics, Osteopathic Heritage Foundation, PhRMA and PBA.

## New Public Health Report on State Vision Programs

In an effort to gauge the effectiveness of vision loss prevention programs across the country, Prevent Blindness America, working together with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Chronic Disease

Directors, sponsored visits to seven states including Ohio to seek information about current efforts to address vision loss and opportunities for further action.

Recommendations published in "Vision Problems in the United States: Recommendations for a State Public Health Response" include: additional research to gather more complete data of those at risk and who are currently affected, an increase in public awareness campaigns that emphasize the need for regular eye exams and other actions to prevent vision loss, and for all vision program partners to come together to coordinate programs so people have greater access to services and to increase needed referrals and improve outcomes.

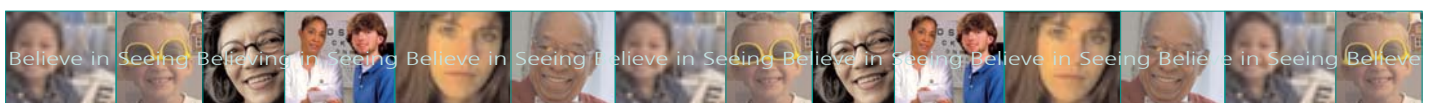
The complete report can be found at: [www.preventblindness.org/advocacy/CDD\\_Vision\\_Report.pdf](http://www.preventblindness.org/advocacy/CDD_Vision_Report.pdf)

## Consumer Fireworks Safety

PBO partnered with the State Fire Marshal to warn people of the dangers of consumer fireworks at a press conference in June. Prevent Blindness Ohio supports legislation that restricts the importation, general sale and indiscriminate usage of fireworks by children and adults. The press conference was co-sponsored by other members of the Ohio Eye Care Coalition including Ohio Ophthalmological Society, Ohio Optometric Association, Opticians Association of Ohio.

## Congressional Vision Caucus

Dedicated to strengthening and stimulating a national dialogue and policy on vision-related problems and disabilities, the CVC co-chaired by Ohio Representative Patrick Tiberi focuses on vision research, blindness prevention, public health policy, access to treatment and vision rehabilitation. Other Ohio members of the CVC are: Representatives Bob Ney, Deborah Pryce, Marcy Kaptur and Paul Gillmor.



# PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO

## Condensed Financial Statement

Year Ended March 31, 2005

### Revenue

#### Public Support

Contributions	\$325,222
Legacies and bequests	\$11,522
Special events, net of direct costs	\$690,274
Combined Service Campaigns	\$6,370
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>\$1,033,388</b>

#### Grant Revenue

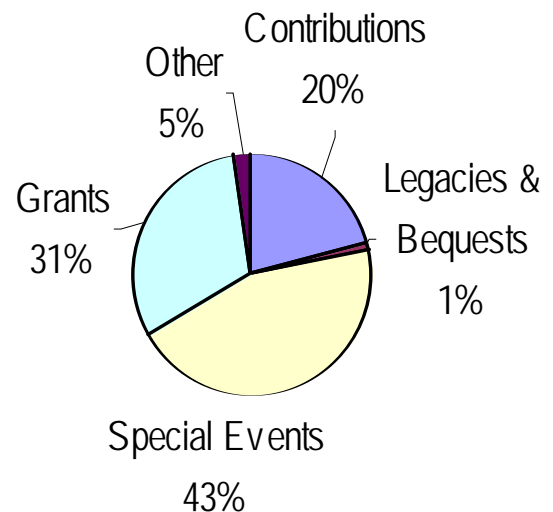
**\$499,400**

#### Other Revenue

Total return on investments	\$56,617
Other revenue	\$25,681
<b>Total Other Revenue</b>	<b>\$82,298</b>

**Total Public Support, Grant Revenue and Other** **\$1,615,086**

### 2004-2005 Revenues



### Expenses

#### Program Services

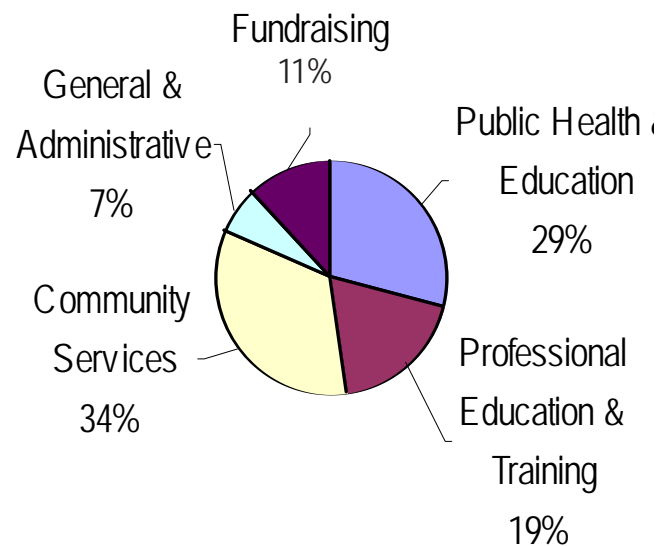
Public Health and Education	\$415,811
Professional education and training	\$279,882
Community services	\$483,982
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$1,179,675</b>

#### Supporting Services

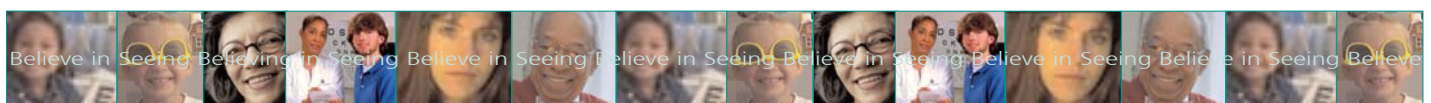
General and Administrative	\$97,430
Fundraising	\$164,280
<b>Total Supporting Service</b>	<b>\$261,710</b>

**Total Expenses** **\$1,441,385**

### 2004-2005 Expenses



A complete set of audited financial statements is available upon request.



## PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO

# Annual Sight-Saving Campaign Donors

(For the period April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005)

### Visionary Leadership (\$15,000+)

Nationwide The Virginia Conlogue Foundation

### Directors (\$5,000 - \$14,999)

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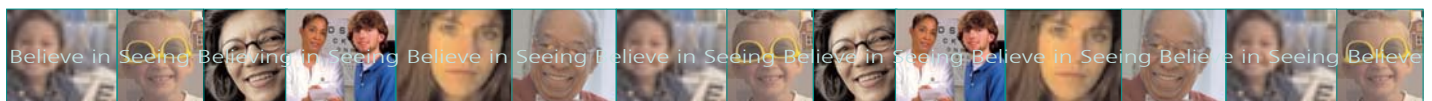
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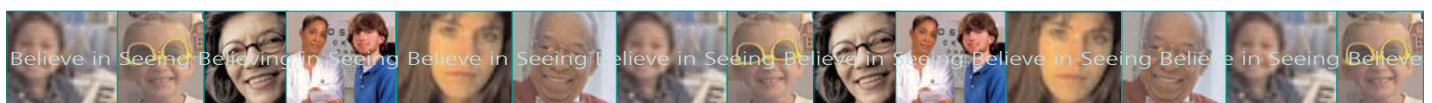
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# The Cost of Vision Loss

Lost days from work due to eye problems cost Ohio employers **\$13,862,200** just last year.

Based on a 2004 study published by the National Eye Institute, the total annual economic costs of visual disorders and disabilities in the U.S. and Ohio are estimated to be over **\$67.5 billion** and **\$2.7 billion** respectively.

**80 percent** of what we learn is through our gift of sight.

**Vision is critical** to conducting activities of daily living, is a portal for language, and affects developmental learning, communicating, working, health, and quality of life.

Vision impairment is one of the **most feared** disabilities.

When it comes to eyes, **we get one pair and no spare!**

## Our Mission: To Prevent Blindness & Preserve Sight

Prevent Blindness Ohio is the statewide public health advocate for sight conservation. We promote eye health and safety while working to find the cure for blinding eye diseases. Our mission is carried out through Public Information, Research and Early Detection - P.R.E :

### Public Information

Prevent Blindness Ohio supports **public policies** that advocate good eye health and safety for all Ohioans such as fireworks safety and access to comprehensive, professional vision care for Ohioans of all ages.

Prevent Blindness Ohio offers **workplace wellness programming** and **preschool and elementary educational programs** that provide facts to make informed decisions about eye health and eye safety.

Prevent Blindness Ohio offers a comprehensive selection of **print and audio-visual materials** dealing with all aspects of eye health and safety for use at home, work, school and leisure. Our toll-free informational and referral hotline number is **800-301-2020**.

### Research

PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO **funds research** by contributing to The Prevent Blindness America Investigator Awards which provide support for clinically-based research investigating public health issues related to the burden of illness of eye-related health and safety. All research grants promote the core mission of Prevent Blindness America - preserving sight and preventing blindness.

### Early Detection

**Early detection** and prompt, professional treatment are essential in halting eye diseases like amblyopia and glaucoma.

**Vision training and screening programs** enable thousands of volunteers and providers of primary health care to detect potentially blinding eye diseases and refer individuals for professional treatment early, when it is most effective.

**Vision Care Outreach** programs provide access to comprehensive donated eye care (eye exam, glasses and aftercare) for homeless and medically indigent children and adults.

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