

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For more information:**

Prevent Blindness  
Sarah Hecker  
(312) 363-6035  
shecker@preventblindness.org

**Call for Nominations Announced for the  
2019 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence  
in Vision and Public Health from Prevent Blindness**

***Recipient to be honored at Eighth Annual Focus on Eye Health National Summit in Washington, D.C.***

**CHICAGO (Nov. 13, 2018)** – [Prevent Blindness](#), the nation’s oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, is issuing a call for nominations for the [2019 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health](#). The Award recognizes an individual, team, or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the field of public health, and vision and eye health at a community, state, national, and/or international level.

The award is named for Mrs. Jenny Pomeroy, who served as CEO of [Prevent Blindness Georgia](#) from 1996 until 2013, and was a tireless advocate for the role of public health in vision and eye care services and programs. A subcommittee of the all-volunteer Prevent Blindness Public Health and Policy Committee will review all nominations and select the award recipient.

The deadline for nominations is Dec. 13, 2018, at noon, Eastern Time. The award consists of formal acknowledgement and a commemorative plaque to be presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Prevent Blindness Focus on Eye Health National Summit in Washington, D.C., on July 17, 2019.

To receive the award, the recipient must be available to present at the 2019 Focus on Eye Health National Summit. Domestic travel expenses will be covered from anywhere in the United States by Prevent Blindness. If travel is international, Prevent Blindness will reimburse airfare up to \$600.

“Promoting new and innovative approaches to vision and eye health challenges is essential to our mission of preventing blindness and preserving sight,” said Jeff Todd, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness. “The Jenny Pomeroy Award provides us the opportunity to recognize those who are successfully contributing to public health advancements that lead to proven outcomes for community-based eye health.”

The 2018 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health was awarded to the [Johns Hopkins University School-Based Eye Care Team](#) in recognition for its work investigating and addressing vision-related problems in high-poverty schools in locations such as Baltimore and Chicago. Past recipients of this award include John E. Crews, DPA, retired from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2017), Bruce Moore, OD, retired from the New England College of Optometry (2016), and Richard Bunner, retired from the Ohio Department of Public Health (2015).

For more information on the nomination process or to submit a nomination for the Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health, please visit <https://www.preventblindness.org/jenny-pomeroy-award-excellence-vision-and-public-health>, or contact Nita Patel Sinha, director of Public Health, at (800) 331-2020 or [npatelsinha@preventblindness.org](mailto:npatelsinha@preventblindness.org).

### **About Prevent Blindness**

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening and training, community and patient service programs and research. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. Together with a network of affiliates, Prevent Blindness is committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America. For more information, or to make a contribution to the sight-saving fund, call 1-800-331-2020. Or, visit us on the Web at [preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org) or [facebook.com/preventblindness](https://facebook.com/preventblindness).

###