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**National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health at Prevent
Blindness Issues Call for Nominations for the 2019 Bonnie
Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award**

***Annual Award Recognizes Outstanding Efforts to Improve Eye Health
Services for Children in the United States***

CHICAGO (May 16, 2019) – The [National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness](#) (NCCVEH) has issued the call for nominations for the fifth annual [Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award](#). The Award recognizes significant efforts by an individual or group of individuals to improve public health approaches for children’s vision and eye health at the state or national level. The deadline for submission is July 10, 2019.

The award was established by the NCCVEH Advisory Committee to commemorate Bonnie Strickland and her groundbreaking work to establish a comprehensive system for children’s vision in the United States. Strickland served as Director of the Division of Services for Children with Special Health Needs, Maternal and Child Health Bureau prior to her retirement in 2014. An all-volunteer committee for the Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award review all nominations and select the award winner.

Nominees for the Award may include individuals or a group comprised of diverse stakeholders, including family/caregiver and community leaders, who are implementing changes to improve children’s vision in the United States. Nominees should demonstrate an impact in one or more areas of a public health system supporting children’s vision including:

- Key Stakeholder Engagement or Collaboration, including representation from families and diverse racial/ethnic/geographic and socio-economic levels target populations
- Training and Education
- Public Awareness
- Provision of Resources and/or Services
- Surveillance and Accountability
- Reduction of Health Disparities

- Infrastructure Development-Local, State, or National Level
- Making the connection between vision and overall health, early childhood development and learning

The Award will be presented at the NCCVEH annual meeting, Sept. 14, 2019, in Baltimore, MD. The Award consists of a commemorative plaque, recognition and opportunity to present at the Annual Meeting, and roundtrip transportation for one to Baltimore, MD, along with one night of lodging. The award recipient will be featured on the website for the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health with an overview of their program.

Past recipients of the Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children's Vision Award include the Vision in Preschoolers (VIP) Study Group, Richard Bunner, retired from the Ohio Department of Health, Sean P. Donahue, MD, Ph.D., Professor of [Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at Vanderbilt University](#), the [Illinois Eye Institute \(IEI\) at Princeton Vision Clinic](#), and the [Pediatric Physicians' Organization at Children's](#) (PPOC).

"Prevent Blindness is an organization founded on saving sight in children, and the Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children's Vision Award provides us with the opportunity to recognize the tremendous efforts of those dedicated to protecting vision and keeping eyes healthy for our kids," said Jeff Todd, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness.

For more information or to submit a nomination for the 2019 Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children's Vision Award, please visit <http://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/content/bonnie-strickland-champion-childrens-vision-award>, or contact Donna Fishman at (800) 331-2020 or dfishman@preventblindness.org.

About the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health at 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. In 2009, Prevent Blindness established the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health, with support from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration's Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Serving as a national resource for the establishment of a public health infrastructure, the National Center advances and promotes children's vision and eye care, providing leadership and training to public entities throughout the United States. The National Center is advised by a committee of national experts and leaders from the fields of ophthalmology, optometry, pediatrics, nursing, family advocates and public health to guide the work and recommendations of the Center. 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 <http://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org> or www.facebook.com/preventblindness.

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