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**For more information:**

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

**Prevent Blindness Issues Call for Nominations for Jenny Pomeroy  
Award for Excellence in Vision and  
Public Health, and the Rising Visionary Award**

***-Recipients to be honored at 10th Annual Focus on Eye Health National  
Summit-***

**CHICAGO (Jan. 6, 2021)** – [Prevent Blindness](#), the nation’s oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, has issued the call for nominations for the “[2021 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health](#),” and the second annual “[Rising Visionary Award](#).” Both the awards will be formally presented at the [Tenth Annual Prevent Blindness Focus on Eye Health National Summit](#), to be held virtually, on July 14-15, 2021.

The Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health recognizes an individual, team, or organization that has made significant contributions to the advancement of public health related to vision and eye health at the community, state, national, and/or international level. The award serves as a living memorial to Jenny Pomeroy, who was the CEO of [Prevent Blindness Georgia](#) from 1996 until 2013, and brought a passionate understanding of public health to her work and the Prevent Blindness mission.

The 2021 award recipient or representative (if a team or organization) must be available to present at the 2021 Focus on Eye Health National Summit.

The 2020 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health was presented to the [Children’s Vision Rehabilitation Program \(CVRP\)](#) at West Virginia University. Other past recipients of this award include Cynthia Owsley, PhD, MSPH, Nathan E. Miles Chair of Ophthalmology and Director of the Clinical Research Unit at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (2019); the Johns Hopkins University School-Based Eye Care Team (2018); 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 T. Bunner, retired from the Ohio Department of Public Health (2015).

The second annual Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award will be presented to an optometry student or resident, ophthalmology resident, primary health care, nursing, or other health professional student or resident in the United States who has the best essay based on a question related to the 2021 Focus on Eye Health National Summit theme, "Our Changing Vision." The awardee must be available to present at the Summit to receive the award. Last year's recipient was Araba Otoo, a third-year optometry student at The Ohio State University.

A subcommittee of the all-volunteer committee will review all nominations and select the award recipients. The deadline for submissions for both awards is Friday, February 5, 2021.

"The Jenny Pomeroy Award and the Rising Visionary Award allow Prevent Blindness the opportunity to recognize excellence in the field of vision and eye health," said Jeff Todd, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness. "We invite nominations from across America for those who share in our mission and commitment to sight-saving efforts."

For more information on the Prevent Blindness Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health, please visit <https://preventblindness.org/jenny-pomeroy-award-for-excellence-in-vision-and-public-health/>. Information on the Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award may be found at <https://preventblindness.org/rising-visionary-award/>. Or, contact Nita 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, visit us at [preventblindness.org](https://preventblindness.org), and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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