

## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For more information:**  
Prevent Blindness  
Sarah Hecker  
(312) 363-6035  
shecker@preventblindness.org

### **Prevent Blindness Offers Webinars, Services and Free Resources for August's Children's Eye Health and Safety Month During the "Year of Children's Vision"**

**CHICAGO (July 27, 2022)**- August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month, and 2022 is the "Year of Children's Vision" at national non-profit, [Prevent Blindness](#). The nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization is offering a wide variety of free resources, including educational tool kits, fact sheets, webinars, and more, to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, school nurses and public health professionals the information they need to help keep children's eyes healthy and ensure that children are ready to learn and succeed in school, activities and development.

[The National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness \(NCCVEH\)](#) has an extensive library of free informational resources about vision health for children from infants to teens. Programs for professionals include the "[Small Steps for Big Vision](#)" tool kit, vision screening certification training, children's vision and eye health data and reports, facts sheets in multiple languages and shareable social media graphics.

Available in August, Prevent Blindness and the NCCVEH will offer:

- a new episode in the online [Focus on Eye Health Expert Series](#), "Partnering with School Nurses for Children's Vision and Eye Health." Jeff Todd, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness, interviews Donna Mazyck, MS, RN, NCSN, CAE, FNASN, executive director of [National Association of School Nurses](#).
- a free webinar, "[Vision Screening: Birth Through High School](#)," presented by Kay Nottingham Chaplin, EdD, education and outreach coordinator at Prevent Blindness. The first in a two-part series, the session will be held Aug. 16 at 2 p.m. ET.
- two Facebook Live discussions with BlackDoctor.org, in partnership with the [Children's Vision Equity Alliance](#): "Children's Eye Safety" on Aug. 16 and the "Healthy Kids Summit" on Aug. 23.
- an updated [Star Pupils: Healthy Eyes for Healthy Futures Curriculum](#) for educators. The free materials include a teacher classroom presentation guide, reference eye exam diagram and in-class worksheets (includes coloring and

activity sheets).

- presentations and video recordings from “[The Children’s Vision Forum](#)” session held at the 2022 Prevent Blindness Focus on Eye Health National Summit. Stacy Ayn Lyons, OD, FAAO, New England College of Optometry moderated presentations from parents, patients, educators, researchers and clinicians. Presentations include a variety of topics on children’s eye health.

Prevent Blindness and its affiliates also partner with leading companies throughout the year to provide vouchers for free children’s vision services. Since 1999, Prevent Blindness and [VSP Eyes of Hope](#) have provided nearly 125,000 students in need with free vision care and glasses valued at up to \$48 million. In the United States, Prevent Blindness also partners with [OneSight](#) from EssilorLuxottica Foundation. Since the program’s inception, OneSight has served 10 million people in more than 50 countries, providing permanent vision care access to more than 42 million people. New this year, Prevent Blindness is partnering with [AEG Vision](#) to provide eye examinations and eyeglasses to children and adults in Ohio and Texas.

In 2022, Prevent Blindness debuted [The Zenni Scholarship to Advance Children’s Vision](#), providing professionals with free enrollment in the Prevent Blindness vision screening certification program. Once certified, screeners can play an important role in identifying children’s vision problems early and connecting children across the United States to eyecare. [Zenni Eyewear](#) provides vouchers for free prescription Zenni eyeglasses to those who are eligible.

“More than 100 years ago, our organization was founded to prevent unnecessary blindness in newborns,” said Jeff Todd, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness. “Today, we continue that mission to provide families, educators, nurses and others with the resources they need to ensure a lifetime of healthy vision for children.”

For general information on children’s eye health and safety, go to <https://preventblindness.org/your-childs-sight/>. For information on the NCCVEH and its variety of programs, visit <https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/>. Vision care financial assistance resources in English and Spanish may also be found at: <http://preventblindness.org/vision-care-financial-assistance-information/>.

### **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](http://preventblindness.org), and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

###