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# Prevent Blindness Georgia

**Annual Report** 

2016

739 West Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 200 Atlanta, GA 30308-1137

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#### Letter from the Chairman ——



Dear Friends,

What an exciting year we've had helping to preserve the sight of Georgians. We have just completed another successful year of providing vision screening services to

children and adults. With the support of our screening staff and community partners in 116 of Georgia's 159 counties, we screened 31,849 children and served over 1,936 adults. As we continue to realize the goals as outlined in our strategic plan, we expect to expand to 120 counties over the next three years.

Reflecting on this past year, I see how much we have accomplished. It is our intention to continue to build upon our achievements by expanding our reach while maintaining the quality that has come to define Prevent Blindness Georgia. Fulfilling this mission will continue to drive our efforts to prevent avoidable blindness for all Georgians.

We are grateful for those who have participated as long-time supporters of Prevent Blindness Georgia and hope you continue to share our enthusiasm for the mission. We would like to thank our wonderful community partners throughout Georgia and our supportive financial sponsors. The foundations, corporations, and individuals who have donated to our vision of preventing blindness and preserving sight are the lifeblood of Prevent Blindness Georgia, and we appreciate your continuing support.

As this year comes to a close, I cannot thank the staff of PBGA enough for their support and passion. To my fellow board members, thank you for your service and dedication. The organization is in very capable hands of Jill Shapiro Thornton. I will always have a special place in my heart for Prevent Blindness Georgia.

In the quest for vision health,

Seth K. Abram

# Children's Program —

"Young children do not know they have a vision problem and see differently than others."

### 2016 Program Impact

- Screened 31,849 children ages 3-5.
- Referred 2,511 children for follow-up eye exams.
- Trained 384 people from 20 counties.

Visited 670 schools in 88 counties.

Of the children we referred with confirmed follow-up appointments with eye doctors:

- 481 were prescribed glasses, of those, 17 are also patching, and 2 had surgery.
- 65% received diagnoses of refractive error, (nearsighted, farsighted, astigmatism); amblyopia, ("lazy eye"); strabismus, (misaligned eyes) or ptosis, cataract, retinal problems, or anisocoria.
- 51 received replacements for lost or broken glasses.

# Adult Programs —

"The rate of vision loss due to aging eye diseases in Georgia will double by 2030."

#### 2016 Program Impact

- Provided **1,406** free eye exams.
- Dispensed 1,429 pairs of eye glasses.
- Referred 7.3% (154) of participants examined for possible eye disease.
- Took 351 retinal photos to be reviewed by an ophthalmologist.

Served 1,936 adults in 66 counties.

Of those adult clients served:

- Ages: (7) under 18 years. (381) 18-39 years, (719) 40-54 years, and (829) 55+.
- Gender: 57% women, 43% men.
- Demographics: 60% African American, 21% Caucasian, 16% Hispanic, 1% Asian, and 2% not specified.
- Suspected eye diseases: glaucoma (60 people), diabetic retinopathy (20), cataracts (38), retinal issues (16), macular degeneration (3), and other eye health issues (17).

# Special Events -

Cheers! For Children's Vision
August 29, 2015
Red Brick Brewing Co.



From left: Dumbi Ogbechie, Brandon Edmond, and Brian Deitz

Cheers! For Children's Vision was chaired by Anne Berry Butler. \$7,700 was raised to support our Adult programs.

> Tea to See March 20, 2016 Piedmont Driving Club



Kim Musierowicz and Tiffany Gough

The 2016 Tea to See was co-chaired by board members Tiffany Gough, Kim Musierowicz, and Dot Stoller. We raised nearly \$21,000 to fund our Star Pupil's program.