



# 2021

## Annual Report



**Prevent  
Blindness**  
Georgia

# A Vital Mission

## A Message from our Chair & President

As we write this report on the April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021 fiscal year, we are entering the third year of the COVID pandemic. We write with gratitude for your continued support during these lean and challenging times. We also write to share and celebrate what, with your support, we have been able to accomplish in the last year. Despite episodic school closures and the difficulties of making plans and scheduling health screenings at a time when the ability to gather face-to-face is never guaranteed, our programs managed to provide in-person service to nearly 20,000 Georgians and countless more with information, referrals, and advocacy for critical national funding for glaucoma and other vision and eye health issues.

COVID and the many ways it has exacerbated existing economic and health disparities has made the need for our services ever more essential. Before the pandemic, an estimated 62 million people in the U.S. had no vision insurance coverage. With significant job losses during the pandemic, the number of people who are uninsured has grown resulting in greater need for our Vision Outreach Services.

The need for our Children's Vision Services is similarly critical. Children have spent countless hours staring at screens during virtual schooling and cancelled recreational activities. Many parents have delayed or foregone preventative medical visits. Prevent Blindness Georgia is the single largest provider of free vision screening services for children in the state of Georgia. The children of the pandemic need us and our attention to their vision now more than ever.

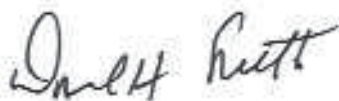
PBGA and the people who depend on us have been very fortunate to have your support during this time. Because of you, despite the challenges, we emerged from the 2020/2021 fiscal year stronger. Generous COVID relief grants from the R. Howard Dobbs Foundation, relief initiatives like the now forgiven Payroll Protection Act Loan, and the many who attended our virtual fundraising events have helped us to navigate our way through.

COVID re-affirmed the value of the work we do. Thanks to you, we will be able to continue. We invite your continued support in the mission of *preventing blindness and preserving sight*.

With appreciation,



Jill S. Thornton  
President & CEO



Dave Smith  
Board Chair, 2019 - 2021

## Board of Directors, 2020-2021

David Smith, Chair  
Scott Bullock, Vice-Chair  
Rachel Skypek, CPA, Treasurer  
Phoebe Lenhart, MD, Secretary  
Ninita Brown, MD, PhD  
Gavin Cohen, OD  
Tim Dunn, PE  
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Dimple Modi, MD  
Dave Paule  
Arshia Payman, MD  
Jeanne Perrine, OD  
Sherry Perchik  
Ben Seals  
Michael Young  
Christy Ziglar

## Staff

Jill S. Thornton, President & CEO  
De Nichols, VP of Adult Vision Services  
Shavette L. Turner, VP of Children's Vision Services  
Rebecca Davis, PhD, CFRE, ACFRE, Dir. of Development  
Rachel Ness, Development Assistant  
Pam Lane, Office Manager  
Patty Clarke, Vision Screener  
Mary Conway, Vision Screener  
Karla Flandez, Vision Screener  
Al Jennings, Vision Screener  
Nancy O'Connor, Vision Screener  
Sue Powers, Vision Screener  
Mary Ramos, Vision Screener  
Nancy Rogers, Vision Screener  
Evelyn Wettlaufer-Holley, Vision Screener  
Delores Wilford, Vision Screener  
Clara Williams, Vision Screener  
Karena Williams, Vision Screener  
Carole Woodard, Vision Screener

## Office

270 Carpenter Drive—Ste 606  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328  
404.266.2020  
[www.pbga.org](http://www.pbga.org)





**Our Mission:**

***To prevent blindness & preserve sight***

# Our Program Impact



## VISION OUTREACH SERVICES



**1,308**

people



**11**

partner sites



**719**

glasses

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **New Vision Outreach Permanent Clinic in Augusta:** With generous support from United Healthcare, the Vision Outreach program was able to open a permanent clinic site in Augusta in the offices of community partner, Medical Associates Plus. The Augusta clinic first began holding vision clinics in June 2021.
- **Whitefoord Vision Clinic in South Atlanta Reopens:** Our permanent clinic at Whitefoord Family Medical Center temporarily closed in 2020 as the Whitefoord clinic moved from its location on Warren Street to a new, larger facility on Hosea Williams Drive. Our Vision Clinic at Whitefoord re-opened in May 2021.
- **Digital Retinal Imaging Helps 312:** Through our Georgia Retinal Imaging Program (GRIP), Vision Outreach no-cost retinal screening through our community partners to diagnose possible problems with diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and macular degeneration.

### About Vision Outreach:

The program provides vision screening, comprehensive eye exams and free and low-cost prescription glasses: Serving adults living at- or below-200% of the federal poverty level, VO offers an array of eyecare services through a network of community partners across the state, including homeless shelters, FQHC's, domestic violence shelters, and community service organizations targeting special populations such as those who are HIV+.

**GRIP:** VO is the home of the Georgia Retinal imaging program (GRIP) which takes digital images of the back of participants retinas and sends those images to specialists for evaluation, allowing for early detection of retinal disease, especially diabetic retinopathy.

**Healthy Aging Programs:** Working with area agencies on aging, VO offers education about healthy aging and your eyes and provides screening for seniors at-risk.

## Renewing your driver's license?



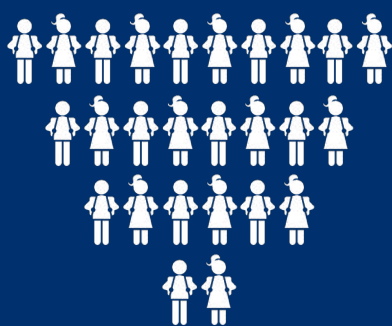
Say "Yes!" when asked if you would like to donate \$1 to the *Drive for Sight* program. Your voluntary contribution benefits the Vision Outreach program of Prevent Blindness Georgia!



# Our Program Impact



## CHILDREN'S VISION SERVICES



**18,445**  
children



**296**  
schools



**188**  
glasses

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **“Completing the Circle of Care” in Hall County:** With generous support from United Healthcare, National Vision, Alcon, the Essilor Foundation, and more than a hundred community volunteers, the Children’s Vision Services of Prevent Blindness Georgia “completed the circle of care” by going beyond vision screening to actually putting glasses on children’s faces. After vision screening more than 9,000 children in 20 Hall County elementary schools, the program held a series of three Saturday clinics to invite the parents and guardians of children who failed the vision screening to bring their children for a free comprehensive eye exam. All children who needed glasses were given a free pair of prescription glasses.
- **Program’s Leader Shavette L. Turner Wins National Award:** For her visionary leadership of the Hall County project, Shavette L. Turner, VP of Children’s Vision Services for Prevent Blindness Georgia, was given the Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award, a prestigious, nationally competitive award from the National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness. The award recognizes one person or group each year that makes a significant public health impact on children’s vision.
- **New Partnership with Nursing Students from University of North Georgia:** Nursing students from the University of North Georgia are now trained on vision screening and are working in PBGA’s Star Pupils Children’s Vision Services Program. This not only helps extend PBGA’s program reach, it also strengthens the skills of future nurses and decreases the likelihood of children’s vision problems going undetected.

### About Children’s Vision Services:

PBGA’s Star Pupils child vision screening program sends certified screeners to schools and other childcare settings throughout the state to test young children to identify those who might need vision correction or have a vision disorder. The program has an extensive outreach effort which involves contacting lottery-funded pre-kindergartens, Head Starts, Title I schools, and daycares to schedule screenings for the upcoming academic year.

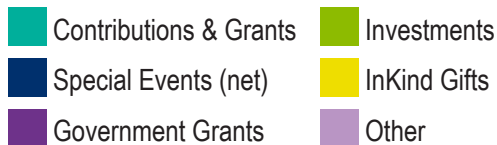
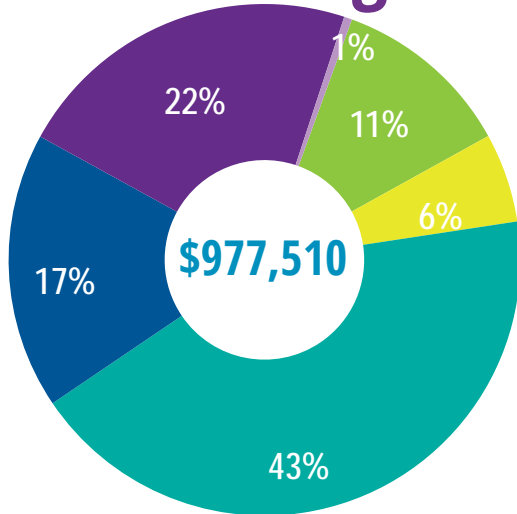
Through careful stewardship, the cost to vision screen a child is only \$10. By committing to sponsor at least one child per month—that is, by donating \$10/month or more—you can join the Sight Club, our monthly giving program and help Knock Out Blindness!



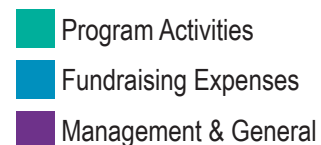
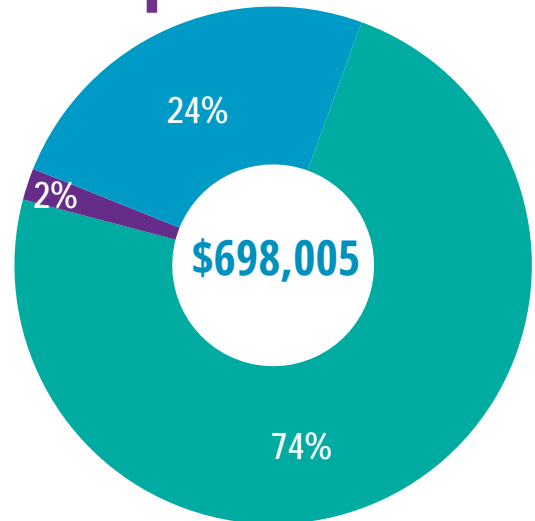


# Financial Report

## Funding



## Expenditures



Prevent Blindness Georgia is committed to financial transparency. More detailed financial information, including our external audit and tax form 990, is available on our website at <https://georgia.preventblindness.org/financial-reports/>. Prevent Blindness Georgia is a nonprofit organization, tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. The organization's EIN number is 58-6050305. Visit [pbga.org](http://pbga.org) to learn more.

## Join Us in 2022

**APR 26**

Cast & Swing  
Piedmont Driving Club

**JUN 11**

Sight Saving Summer Social  
Magnolia Hall at Piedmont Park

**OCT 22**

Night for Sight  
Egyptian Ballroom, Fox Theatre



# Events

April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021

## A Virtual Gala: Night for Sight 2020

With COVID and social distancing, the 2020 gala held on October 24th was virtual. We are grateful for our event's sponsors. Janice Rothschild Blumberg, author of *One Voice: Rabbi Jacob M. Rothschild and the Troubled South*, opened the event by saying, "Vision is more than what meets the eye, but that's where it begins so we cherish it and we must preserve it." A surprise celebrity appearance from **Samuel L. Jackson** helped ensure that the virtual event was so much more than just another Zoom call. The event honored ophthalmologist **Dr. Paul Kaufman**, a retinal specialist with Thomas Eye Group, as the 2020 Person of Vision. Many thanks to our 2020 Sponsors and all who made the event a success.



### 2020 SPONSORS

#### Power of Sight Sponsors (\$15,000)



#### Visionary Sponsor (\$10,000)



#### Gourmet Cuisine Sponsor (\$7,500)



Following the gala, food that was not served at the gala because of the virtual nature of the event, was delivered by Alcon representatives and PBGA staff to front-line healthcare workers at Emory Hospital.

#### Insightful Sponsors (\$5,000)

- Ninita Brown, MD, PhD
- Georgia Power
- Ocular Therapeutics
- Dr. Jeanne Perrine & Terry Neal
- UBS
- Wellstar Neuro Care

#### Apple of Our Eye Sponsors (\$2,500)

- Dunn Laboratories
- Gainesville Eye Associates
- Dr. Jeffrey Gallups
- Georgia Eye Associates
- Georgia Eye Partners
- Kearny Street Consulting

#### Eye-Catching Sponsors (\$1,000)

- Accel Healthcare Resources
- Aprio
- Clearwave Construction
- Gay Construction
- Georgia Primary Care Association
- Georgia Society of Ophthalmology Foundation
- Greater Atlanta Oral Facial Surgery
- Safer Way IT
- United Community Bank

# Donors

## \$100,000 and above

United Healthcare

## \$50,000 - \$99,999

Alcon Foundation

National Association of Chronic Disease  
Directors

National Vision

R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation

## \$25,000 - \$49,999

2020 Quest

## \$10,000 - \$24,999

Frances Wood Wilson Foundation

Georgia Charitable Care Network

Ida Alice Ryan Charitable Trust

Moran Family Foundation

Thomas and Irene Kirbo Foundation

Thomas Eye Group

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

Community Foundation of South GA

David Smith

Eye South Partners

Gavin Cohen, OD

Georgia Power

Greystone Power Foundation

Hauser Group

Jeanne Perrine, OD & Terry Neal

Ninita Brown, MD, PhD

Ocular Therapeutix

Ophthalmic Mutual Insurance Company

Pinnacle Health

Protiviti

Sandy Springs Society

Scott Bullock

Tim Dunn

UBS Financial Services

Will Humphries, MD

## \$2,500 - \$4,999

Carroll EMC

Christy & Jonathan Ziglar

Gainesville Eye Associates

Georgia Eye Associates

Georgia Eye Partners

Jeffrey Gallups

Kiwanis Foundation of Atlanta

Paul Kaufman, MD

Zack McKinney

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

Accel Healthcare Resources

Adam Low

Alimera Sciences

Aprio

Ben Seals

Care Source

Carl Zeiss Meditec

Catholic Foundation of North Ga

Chatham Foundation

Clayton Fleming

Clearwave

Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta

David M Paule

Dr. Sandra & Mr. Tom Gay

Georgia Association For Primary Health  
Care

Georgia Society of Ophthalmology

Greater Atlanta Oral Facial Surgery

Griffith Engineering

Kimberly & Martin Musierowicz

Michael Young

Oak River Services

Parker and Elizabeth Miller

Practice Flow Solutions

Rachel Skypek

Sherry Perchik

United Community Bank

## \$500 - \$999

Anitha Kannan

Costello Brown

Dr. Phoebe & Mr. Scott Lenhart

G. Baker Hubbard, OD

Georgia Charitable Care Network

Jackson Lewis Foundation

Jeb Howell

Jennifer & Donald Demba

Michael Cooper

Peachtree Presbyterian Church

Sumter EMC Foundation

## \$250 - \$499

Abtin Shahriari, MD

Ben & Nancy Shapiro

Dana Wallace Bryson

Kristina Price, MD

Jay Kaufman

Jill Thornton

Kim Monroe

Leon Gross

Rebecca Davis, PhD, ACFRE

Scott Lampert, MD

## \$100 - \$249

Amy Hutchison, MD

Carlye Dooley

Charles Shapiro

Charlie Hegarty

Chris Cessna

Cindy Mello

David Levin

Dr. & Mrs. Gilles Cloutier

Ellis Funk

Fabienne Niles



Gwen McAlpine

Ira & Barbara Higginbotham

James Rogers

Jane K. Walker

Jeff Todd

Jeff Weisman

Jeffrey Boatright

Jessica Shantha





April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021



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*Prevent Blindness  
Georgia is the single  
largest provider of free  
vision screening  
services for children in  
the state of Georgia*

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John Cobb  
Joyce Tuttle  
Judy Brower  
Julian Howell  
Julie Perlson  
Ken Neufeld  
Lakhvir Singh, OD  
Larry Rubin  
Lauren Pointer  
Marvolene Slack  
Mary Ramos  
Mary Vidarte  
Michael Blumenfeld  
Newmark Knight Frank  
Nieraj Jain, MD  
Pamela Levy  
Phil & Subie Green

Pooja Mally, MD  
Ranjana Ramchandran  
Richard Steinbruegge  
Sally Levine  
Steven Gottfredson, PhD  
Susan Garber

**\$1 - \$99**

Al Jennings  
Alfred J. Floda  
Ande Baron  
Angela Hall  
Barbara Rozier  
Bertha Taylor  
Bilal Yehia  
Brandye Manigat  
Carla Silver  
Cece Glavin  
Charlotte Roquet  
Christina Hopkins  
Christina Mimms  
Clara Williams  
Connie Shelton  
Craig & Kelly Ricelly Richman  
Darren Silver  
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Jordan Crawford  
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Marian Holloway  
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Mary Salocker  
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Michael Rebillot  
Patsy Fulton  
Ping Moore  
Praneetha Thulasi, MD  
Purnima Patel, MD  
Quinn Lindsay  
Rachel Kaufman  
Rajesh Jobanputra, MD  
Randy Hyman  
Rebecca Shaeffer  
Richard Pfund  
Robbie Williams  
Robert Bullock  
Robert Nichols, Jr.  
Rogers Gibson  
Roy Dunaway  
Russell Keldorff  
Samuel Jenkins  
Sarah Long  
Seth Cohen  
Steve Lashley  
Tad Newman  
Taylor McCauley  
Thuong KhiemTran  
Tiffany Powell  
Tim Couch  
Whitley Ford  
William Becker  
William L. Clark

**In-Kind Donations**

Atlanta Botanical Gardens  
Atlanta History Museum  
Cowabunga Inc.  
High Museum  
White Columns Country Club  
Medieval Times  
Museum of Art & Design

Atlanta Botanical Gardens  
Atlanta History Museum  
Bronca Apparel  
East Lake Golf Club  
Gainesville Eye Associates  
High Museum  
Jane Wullbrandt  
Kim Musierowicz  
Medieval Times  
Museum of Art & Design  
National Vision  
Opal Aesthetics  
Optique  
Scott & Andrea Bullock  
The Eye Stuff Group  
Tim Dunn  
White Columns Country Club

**Corrections?**

Every effort is made to create an accurate, comprehensive list of 2020 - 2021 donors. If there is an omission or correction, please contact our offices at 404-537-4985.



**Prevent  
Blindness**  
Georgia

270 Carpenter Drive - Ste 606  
Sandy Springs, GA 30328