FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information:

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

Prevent Blindness Announces Call for Nominations for Fourth Annual Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health

Recipient will be Honored at 2017 Focus on Eye Health National Summit

CHICAGO (Dec. 1, 2016) – Prevent Blindness, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, is issuing a call for nominations for the 2017 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health. The Award recognizes an individual, team, or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the field of public health, and vision and eye health at a community, state, national level, and/or international level.

The award is named for Mrs. Jenny Pomeroy, who served as CEO of <u>Prevent Blindness</u> <u>Georgia</u> from 1996 until 2013, and was a tireless advocate for championing the role of public health in vision and eye care services and programs.

The deadline for nominations is Jan. 20, 2017 at noon, Eastern Time. The award consists of formal acknowledgement and a commemorative plaque to be presented at the 6th Annual Prevent Blindness <u>Focus on Eye Health National Summit</u> in Washington, D.C., on June 28, 2017.

To receive the award, the recipient must be available to present at the 2017 Focus on Eye Health National Summit. Domestic travel expenses will be covered from anywhere in the United States by Prevent Blindness. If travel is international, Prevent Blindness will reimburse airfare up to \$600.

Nominations for the Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health should include:

- Completion of the nomination form
- A 500-word (or less) description of why the nominee is deserving of this award. Descriptions should be concise and specific and clearly demonstrate the nominee's commitment to vision and eye health and public health along with the

- number of years the nominee has been working in the area of vision and public health.
- A one-page biographical sketch (or vita) of the nominee or one-page background of the team/organization
- Any additional supporting materials relevant to the nomination (limited to less than 10 pages)

"Advocacy for improved vision and eye health services has been a part of the Prevent Blindness mission since our founding in 1908," said Hugh R. Parry, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness. "The Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health recognizes the outstanding efforts by those who champion the cause of healthy vision for all."

The 2016 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health was given to Bruce Moore, OD, Marcus Professor of Pediatric Studies, New England College of Optometry. Dr. Moore was honored for his significant contributions on a state and national level to advancements in vision and eye health and public health practice for children.

For more information or to submit a nomination for the Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health, please contact Nita Patel Sinha, Director of Public Health, at (800) 331-2020 or 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, or to make a contribution to the sight-saving fund, call 1-800-331-2020. Or, visit us on the Web at preventblindness.org or facebook.com/preventblindness.