

Year In Review

2016-2017



Kaylie ♥'s Her Glasses!

2016 Preschool Vision Screening Ambassador, Kaylie, was diagnosed with amblyopia after not passing her Prevent Blindness Wisconsin vision screening. Thanks to early detection and treatment, her vision has improved and she has been able to reduce the amount of time she patches her strong eye each day.

Ever the little athlete, healthy vision has improved Kaylie's coordination and helps her keep her eyes on the ball, quite literally! Kaylie loves wearing her pink and purple sparkly glasses and even brought her eye patch and a book about patching to school to share during show and tell. A Prevent Blindness Wisconsin vision screening saved Kaylie's sight and helped her gain confidence both on and off the playing field. Good luck Kaylie! We're rooting for you!

Our Mission:

Founded in 1958, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin improves the lives of children, adults, and families through early detection of eye conditions to prevent blindness and preserve sight. On-going vision screening activities and state wide public health education lead to a lifetime of healthy vision.

Dear Friends,

I'm so proud to share with you the amazing work of Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's staff, partners, and volunteers this past year. In 2016-17 219,745 children received free vision screenings and of those children screened, 22,431 children were referred for a full eye exam. While the sheer number of children reached is a wonderful testament to the hard work and dedication of Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, I believe the impact of our work can also be seen in the individual lives we touch.

19 years ago, a little three-year-old boy did not pass his vision screening. Like so many of the families we serve, I had no idea that my son, AJ, had a vision problem. He never showed any signs and he never complained that he could not see.

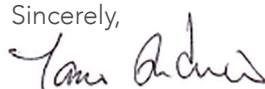
AJ was diagnosed with amblyopia, or lazy eye, and the doctor believed that AJ's right eye had never worked for him from birth. Instead, he was using only his left eye to see the world. AJ received early treatment and his amblyopia corrected quickly. Without Prevent Blindness Wisconsin volunteers, AJ would not have had a vision screening until kindergarten and would have had two more years of lost vision.

This year brought several exciting milestones in my time here at Prevent Blindness Wisconsin. It marks my 14th year serving at Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, my first year as Executive Director, and the year the little boy who brought Prevent Blindness Wisconsin into my life graduated from college.

As not only Executive Director of Prevent Blindness Wisconsin but as the parent of a child with a vision problem, I know first-hand just how important Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's mission is. Prevent Blindness Wisconsin changed my son's life. I'm honored to have the opportunity to work with such a wonderful organization, with amazing and dedicated friends, partners, volunteers, and staff who share my passion for children's vision health.

I admire the work Prevent Blindness Wisconsin does and I hope you will join me in continuing to support the incredible difference Prevent Blindness Wisconsin makes in the lives of children across the state.

Sincerely,



Tami Radwill
Executive Director

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin Struck Gold with Volunteers!

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin was honored to present Barb Struck and Sandy Gold with the 2016 Gae Lach Sight Saver Award at the 57th Annual Meeting in recognition of their unwavering service and dedication to children's vision health. With more than 75 years of combined volunteer service, they have helped ensure countless children have the healthy vision they need to be successful in school and life!

As members of the Delta Gamma Fraternity, a national organization that shares Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's passion for vision, Struck and Gold both come from a background of service; exemplifying the Delta Gamma motto to "Do Good" through their incredible volunteerism. Fondly called the "Mother of Delta Gamma Preschool Vision Screeners," Struck began volunteering with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin in 1976 when she founded the Ozaukee County screening group. Struck has been a dedicated volunteer vision screener for over 40 years, volunteering with the Ozaukee County and North Shore Screening groups. Her enthusiasm and passion for children's vision health is infectious and can be seen in the numerous volunteers she has recruited over the years.



Barb Struck & Sandy Gold

Sandy Gold has volunteered with Prevent Blindness for 35 years, becoming involved with the organization in 1981 after encouragement from Struck. Gold formed the Delta Gamma West Preschool Screening program, now renamed West Suburban and led the group until 1995. For much of that time, she attended every single screening performed by the group. In the words of another Prevent Blindness Wisconsin volunteer, "Sandy's dedication is impossible to replicate!" In 1996, as the Program Chairman, Sandy founded the Lake Country screening group, in which she continues to volunteer.

On behalf of the thousands of children who owe their healthy vision to Barb Struck and Sandy Gold, we thank you!

A Roaring Good Year for the Wisconsin Lions!

The Wisconsin Lions Foundation's partnership with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin has made such a difference in the lives of children across the state! Lion/Lioness Clubs throughout the state reported screening 62,806 children and referring 5,259 of those screened for further care. 317 Lions and Lioness were trained by Prevent Blindness Wisconsin in 12 children's vision screening trainings across the ten Wisconsin Lions Districts. A special thank you to Meghan Postelnik of the Wisconsin Lions Foundation for her work collecting and entering Lions screening data in the Prevent Blindness Wisconsin data collection system.



WI Lions D - 1 District Convention

Postelnik's dedicated service has helped show the truly incredible impact the Wisconsin Lions have on children's vision statewide.

It's Clear to See - Our Volunteers Value Vision!

Square, house, apple, circle. They may seem like four unrelated things, but for preschool-aged children, naming those four simple shapes at a vision screening is the first step on the path to healthy vision. Each year, volunteers in Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's fifteen Volunteer Vision Screening Groups listen to little voices recite those four simple shapes and help ensure thousands of preschool children are vision-ready for a lifetime of learning.

Detecting and treating vision problems early is essential to ensuring a child has the healthy vision they need to learn and play, but often times, it's difficult to know if a child is having trouble seeing. Children with vision problems rarely say anything because they usually have no idea that they see the world differently than other children. They may not know that trees are supposed to have lots of individual leaves. This is where comprehensive vision screenings come in. While children may not show any outward signs that they are struggling with their vision, a comprehensive vision screening can detect children with potential vision problems and refer them to further care.

8,931 preschool-aged children at more than 180 preschools, child care centers, and schools received free comprehensive vision screenings this year! Of those children screened, 783 children were referred to an eye care professional for a full eye exam! Thank you volunteers!

To learn more about becoming a volunteer vision screener, please contact Sarah Campbell, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin Volunteer Coordinator, at 414-765-0505.



Volunteer Marilyn Schneider
at a Milwaukee Star Pupils
Catholic Screening



Volunteers Betsy Haushalter and
Mary Rhomberg at a Milwaukee
Star Pupils Catholic Screening

This year the Milwaukee Star Pupils Catholic Program provided free vision screenings for 1,223 students at 20 schools and referred 142 of those students screened to further care!

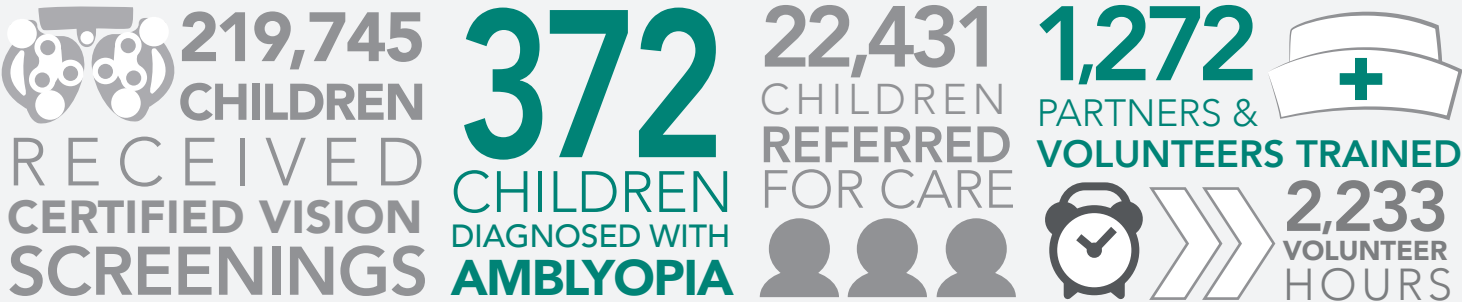
Healthy Eyes Healthy Futures

Funded through the Medical College of Wisconsin's Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment, the Healthy Eyes Healthy Futures program is researching the catalyst needed to move children to care after a failed vision screening.

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is excited to report that the Milwaukee Public Schools records system and the electronic

medical records system used in Children's Hospital of Wisconsin clinics, were both updated to integrate vision screening results into a child's file. This change will help Milwaukee Public Schools and healthcare providers work together to provide children with potential vision problems the care they need for success in the classroom!

2016-2017 COMMUNITY SERVICE STATISTICS



School Nurses Save Sight!

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin partners with Wisconsin school nurses to provide essential vision screenings and sight saving services! This year, 281 school nurses were trained and certified as Children's Vision Screeners, adding to a statewide network of more than 800 school nurses certified as vision screeners.

Thanks to Wisconsin's school nurses, children like Mason from Omro are being set on the road to healthy vision! Mason was, by all accounts, a perfectly healthy child. He was a great athlete who never struggled with hand-eye coordination on the court or field, and he passed the vision checks at his pediatrician's office without issue. Both of these things would be rather unremarkable for most children, except unlike most children, Mason couldn't see out of his right eye.

Mason never showed any signs of a vision problem. No one knew that he wasn't using his right eye until he received a vision screening from his school nurse. Mason was referred to an eye doctor where he was diagnosed with amblyopia so severe that he was legally blind in his right eye without his glasses. Thanks to early detection by his school nurse and aggressive treatment, Mason's vision in his weak right eye has improved from 20/400 to 20/40!

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is grateful to the school nurses across the state who dedicate their time to ensure the children they serve have healthy vision! We couldn't do it without you!



Clear Days Ahead!

Thank you to Wisconsin Vision for supporting children's healthy vision through the Clear Days Ahead program which provided free vision screenings and glasses if needed to more than 400 students at Browning School and the Barack Obama School of Career and Technical Education!



2016-2017 Board of Directors

AS OF 3.31.17

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- Linda Burns



From left, Deb & Bill Walker Jr, Molly Allen-Walker, Mary & Bill Walker Sr.

COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD

Congratulations to the Walker Family and Walker Forge, the 2016 recipients of the Community Partner Award! The Walker Family and Walker Forge have supported and served Prevent Blindness Wisconsin for more than 65 combined years! Through service on the Board of Directors, the Visionary Council, committees, as well as sponsorships at many events, their unwavering dedication to Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's mission is unmatched. The Walker Family understands the importance of Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's sight saving services first hand after Bill Walker's son Sam was diagnosed with a vision problem after a referral from Prevent Blindness Wisconsin volunteers! Because of their support, thousands of children like Sam now have the healthy vision they need for success in school and wherever life may take them! Thank you!

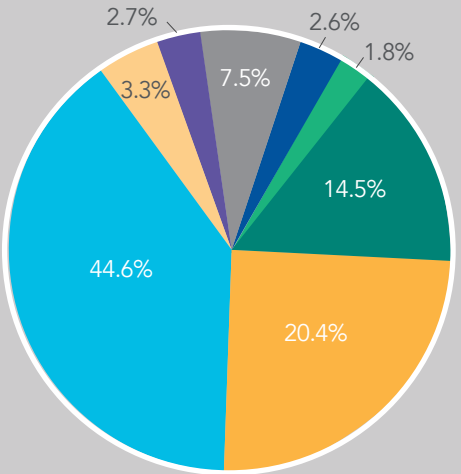
A Clear Vision For Racine!

Thanks to support from the Racine Community Foundation, more than 2,400 children in Racine County Schools, Head Start Sites, and preschools received a vision screening this year! 24 school nurses, Head Start teachers, and other partners in Racine were trained and certified as vision screeners! Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is also working to educate young children about eye health and glasses through the "Your Amazing Eyes" program. Teachers at Acelero Racine Head Start sites were trained and equipped to deliver the program, ensuring that their students will get to learn all about vision and their amazing eyes!

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin Condensed Financial Statement - Year Ending March 31, 2017

REVENUE

Individuals	114,492
Special Events	161,013
Corporate/Foundation	351,776
Organizations	25,784
Government	21,318
Legacies	59,250
Publications & Program Income	20,838
Gain/Loss on Investment	20,333
Contributed Assets	14,000
Total Revenue	788,804



- Individuals
- Special Events
- Corporate/Foundation
- Organizations
- Government
- Legacies
- Publications & Program Income
- Contributed Assets

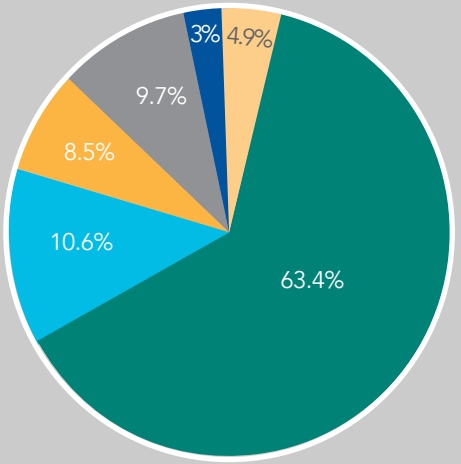
EXPENSES - PROGRAM SERVICES

Public Health Education	21,788
Professional Education & Training	35,041
Community Services	455,430
Affiliate Support of Programs	75,859
Total Program Services	588,118

SUPPORTING SERVICES

General and Administrative	61,156
Fundraising	69,396
Total Supporting Services	130,552
Total Expenses	718,670

A complete set of audited financial statements is available upon request



- Public Health Education
- Professional Education & Training
- Community Services
- Affiliate Support of Programs
- General & Administrative
- Fundraising



New Partnership Sets Sights on At-Risk Adults

Glaucoma, the second leading cause of blindness in the U.S., is often known by another name: "The Sneak Thief of Sight." Although glaucoma is controllable with treatment, it often shows no symptoms and progresses unnoticed until it is too late and irreversible vision loss has occurred. Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's Adult Vision Programs provide vision screening and education to increase awareness and detect glaucoma and other vision problems early, before they rob adults of their sight.

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin began a partnership with the Ebenezer Church of God in Christ Resource Center to enable their staff to provide on-site vision screening and vision health education to the community members they serve. Because the Resource Center has the only 'diabetic friendly' food pantry in the Milwaukee area, this partnership provides a wonderful opportunity to reach more people with diabetes - who are 40% more likely to suffer from glaucoma. By training, supplying, and supporting the Ebenezer Resource Center, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is ensuring that high risk individuals receive the screening and education they need to catch diabetic retinopathy and other vision problems early.

Helping Healthy Vision Race to the Top!

Thanks to funding from Race to the Top through the State of Wisconsin, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin began an exciting new partnership with childcare providers across the state! 82 early childhood care providers representing 37 childcare programs were trained, better yet 24 of these programs had never before received certified vision screener training!

These childcare programs then reported screening 2,497 children and referred 532 of those screened for further care. That's a 21% referral rate which is more than four times the national average! It's easy to see just how much Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's services are needed!

Because the costs associated with purchasing a vision screening kit can be a barrier for many smaller childcare centers, Race to the Top funding also provided 17 vision screening kits free of charge to childcare centers who had two or more staff members trained! Theresa, the owner of a Milwaukee-based childcare center, says "It was not in our budget to purchase the vision screening kit, so we are very thankful. We couldn't have a vision screening program without the kit!"



We Moved!

Thank you to all of our generous friends who made our new office possible! We can already see the positive impact the new office has had on our staff and, most importantly, our work!



Emerald
A student at the
Hmong American
Peace Academy

No Nurse? No Problem!

Because private, charter, and choice schools often lack a school nurse and other resources needed to provide vision screenings, children with vision problems often go undetected and untreated. The Milwaukee Private Schools Program works to reach these at-risk children by supporting free vision screenings at private, charter, and choice schools in Milwaukee County with rates of free and reduced price lunch of 60% and higher. A dedicated group of 5 Prevent Blindness Wisconsin volunteers provided free vision screenings to 1,818 children and referred 615 of those screened for further care.

Amy Nelson, Social Worker at Mount Calvary Lutheran School which is served by the program, knows the importance of healthy vision in a child's education first hand saying, "When a child learns something new for the first time, it is like a spark goes off and they are so excited! They need to see in order to experience that feeling!"



**UW-Madison
Pre-Optometry Club**

Envisioning Wisconsin's Future with University Students

Did you know that many future health professionals receive little to no training or education on vision health and vision screening? Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is working to ensure future health professionals are knowledgeable about vision health and screening by providing training and certification to students at Wisconsin colleges and universities. The program originally began in the classroom, training and certifying nursing students and other pre-health students as vision screeners, and has since expanded to reach pre-health student clubs and associations too! This year, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin trained 744 university students as vision screeners! Many of these students use their training to provide vision screenings at their campus childcare centers and preschools!

Hoffmann Legacy Gift Pays Healthy Vision Forward

Mr. William F. Hoffmann chose to leave a legacy with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin to support our sight saving services, or as Mr. Hoffmann called them, "wonderful things to make life much better for people who really need help."

More than 25 years ago, Hoffmann received a free vision screening at which he showed early signs of glaucoma. While the volunteer vision screener was not certain, Hoffman was referred to further care and urged to get in soon! Based on this strong recommendation, Hoffmann visited the eye doctor and was diagnosed with glaucoma and prescribed a treatment plan. Thanks to his early detection, Hoffmann received early treatment, halting vision loss and saving his remaining sight.

Hoffmann understood the importance of early detection first hand and believed that he would not have received treatment for his glaucoma until it was too late.

Before his passing, Hoffmann shared with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin that his only intention was to "give everything back to God and mankind." Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is honored to memorialize Mr. Hoffmann's life and carry out his wish to give back through our work ensuring healthy vision for adults and children across the state.

If you would like more information on leaving a lasting legacy that will help ensure healthy vision for children and adults across the state, please call Tami Radwill at (414) 765-0505 ex. 1.

Three Companies Help Local Children See!

Thank you to our 2016 Corporate Screening Partners, Executive Benefits Network, Robert W. Baird & Co., and Satisloh North America! The Corporate Screening Partnership Program gives local corporations and their employees an opportunity to serve their communities through vision screening. Employees receive vision screener training to provide free vision screenings to students at local schools that cannot manage a screening alone. This year, 43 corporate volunteers gave 175 hours, more than one entire week, of their time to support children's healthy vision. 845 children were screened and 240 of those children screened were referred for a full eye exam. Because of these partnerships, hundreds of children who would have been left out and left behind are now on the path to healthy vision!

Satisloh North America



Robert W. Baird & Co.



**Executive Benefits
Network**



731 North Jackson Street
Suite 220
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Our vision is for each Wisconsin resident to have healthy vision at every stage of life.



Meet Iris!

Iris faced an all too common issue: her parents were able to afford an eye exam but buying new glasses was simply out of their reach. Iris received new glasses through the Healthy Eyes voucher program, ensuring she has the healthy vision she needs to learn and play! Iris wrote to us personally about her new glasses saying:

"I'm very happy and my friends think they look beautiful. My dad is proud that I can see much more than I could with my old glasses. I didn't like pink anyway."

THANK YOU to our 2016-2017 Donors!

Our generous donors and friends made healthy vision possible for many in 2016-2017. Thank you for helping Wisconsin's children and adults have healthy vision! Because of you, our vision for each Wisconsin resident to have healthy vision is coming true! To learn more about how you can help, please visit us online at:

wisconsin.preventblindness.org

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wisconsin.preventblindness.org