

2022 - 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MEET GEMARIO!

“Gemario is over the moon and won't stop saying how proud he is of himself... You have made such a huge impact with what you all are doing at Prevent Blindness Wisconsin. You have given my son some superpowers that have made him become so confident and proud of himself and PBW.”

—NICOLE MAIS, MOM OF 2022 VISION
SCREENING AMBASSADOR, GEMARIO



DEAR FRIENDS,

While Prevent Blindness Wisconsin served almost 600,000 children and adults this past year, we were reminded that even one life changed makes our work worthwhile. Gemario, our 2022 Vision Screening Ambassador, drove this point home as his story truly encapsulates PBW’s mission.

Originally from Jamaica where he was treated for congenital glaucoma, strabismus, myopia and an astigmatism, Gemario’s parents were duly alarmed when he did not pass his PBW vision screening. The vision screening, key to identifying a potential vision problem, is only the first step in getting a client to care. As in Gemario’s case, sometimes the journey to vision care poses challenges, and meeting these challenges head on is where Prevent Blindness Wisconsin’s work takes on greater significance.

Because Gemario’s parents lacked vision insurance, PBW staff provided one-on-one case-management to help Gemario access necessary care. The result of this effort? Gemario received new glasses and is continuing treatment to manage his congenital glaucoma thanks to the generosity of two of PBW’s partners.

Working together, a PBW volunteer screener, the PBW staff, two generous eye doctors, and Gemario’s supportive family all contributed to this little boy’s future of healthy vision.

Perhaps best known for our work with children, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin’s programming ensures both children and adults in need receive not only a dilated eye exam and vision care, but also makes certain clients feel confident about accessing services as the need arises. A caring, collaborative PBW Staff dedicates each day to furthering our vision for all Wisconsin residents to have healthy vision at every stage of life.

We have many things to be proud of and thankful for, not the least of which are our loyal and generous donors who make our important work possible. As you read on in greater detail, know that everyone at Prevent Blindness Wisconsin and the children and adults we serve deeply appreciate the role you play in each of our successes!


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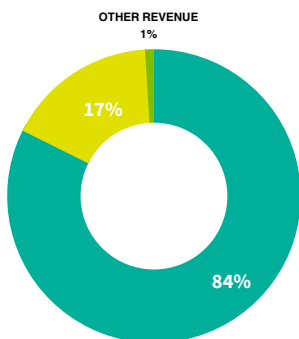
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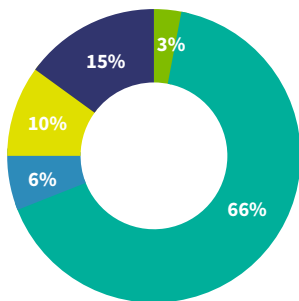


Revenue

- Contributions | \$1,120,572
- Special Events (Net) | \$219,857
- Investment Income | (\$23,117)
- Other Revenue | \$15,705

Total Revenue: \$1,333,017

Statement of Financial Position



Expenses

Program Services

- Public Health | \$26,661
- Community Services | \$580,777
- Professional Education and Training | \$51,561

Supporting Services

- General and administrative | \$86,154
- Fund-raising | \$131,418

Affiliate Support of National Programs | \$83,127

Total Expenses: \$959,698

CHILDREN'S VISION HEALTH PROGRAMS

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin is best known for its Children's Vision Health Program. Because Wisconsin is one of nine states that doesn't require vision screenings for preschool or school-age students, PBW and our Children's Vision Screening Partners' role takes on greater importance as children grow and develop.

Children's Vision Screening Trainings

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's Vision Screening Training Certification Course ensures vision screenings are conducted with proper protocol and are implemented as accurately as possible. Prevent Blindness Wisconsin trained and certified 1,299 partners as Certified Children's Vision Screeners.

Head Start

14 Head Start Staff were re-certified as Children's Vision Screeners and vision health advocates for some of the most at-risk families facing potential vision concerns. These partners facilitated 10,000 vision screenings for Head Start children and families, and, from these vision screenings, referred 2,026 Head Start children to further vision care.

0-3 Children's Vision Health Program

The 0-3 Program focuses on raising vision health awareness for parents/caregivers and vision health stakeholders. Programming puts an increased emphasis on key developmental visual milestones for newborns and babies.

University/HOSA

The University/HOSA Vision Screening Program has created a sustainable vision screening model throughout Wisconsin. 855 University and High School students were certified as Children's Vision Screeners. These students helped vision screen 17,050 preschool and school-aged students throughout Wisconsin and referred 2,570 on for further vision care.



School Nurses

310 school nurses sought Children's Vision Screening Training Certification in the 2022-2023 school year. From this network of Certified Children's Vision Screeners, 77,635 children received a preventative vision screening and 11,372 were referred on to further vision care.

ADULT VISION HEALTH PROGRAMS

To help Wisconsin adults protect their vision, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin's Adult Vision Health Program provides public health education programs, adult vision screenings and risk assessments, case management and care navigation and trains community partners statewide as adult vision health advocates.

Adult Vision Screening Trainings

Adult Vision Screening Training Certification equips Certified Adult Vision Screeners with the knowledge and skill set needed to implement evidence-based adult vision screening services throughout Wisconsin. 111 community partners were trained and certified as Adult Vision Screeners in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Adult Vision Health Program: Wisconsin Well Woman Program

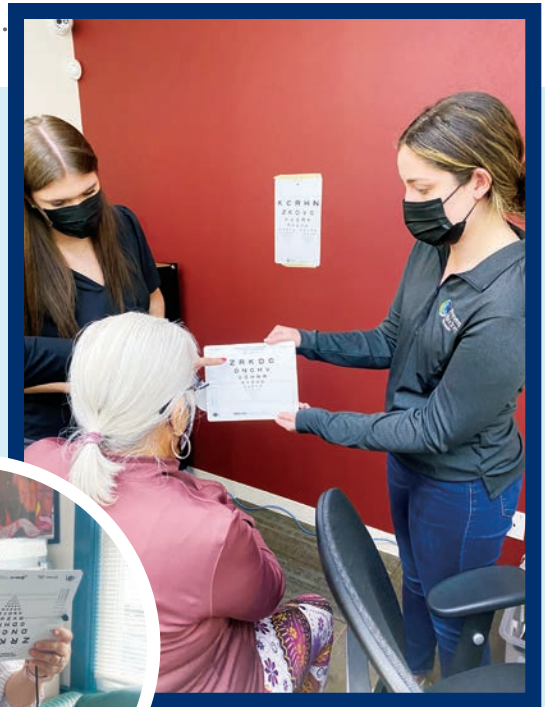
Prevent Blindness Wisconsin began partnering with the Wisconsin Well Woman Programs in 2019 to incorporate the Adult Vision Health Program, including adult preventative vision health services, into an already existing prevention-based program. Since 2019, PBW and Well Woman partners have serviced 908 at-risk adults with their vision health needs.

Free/Reduced Clinics

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin partners with free/reduced clinics throughout Wisconsin to reach and educate at-risk adults to educate and raise awareness on accessing, on-going preventative vision care. PBW currently partners with 15 free/reduced clinics throughout Wisconsin to train and certify clinic staff as Certified Adult Vision Screeners and vision health advocates.

Voucher Program

The vision care voucher program works to improve access to vision care for qualifying low-income, uninsured, and under-insured children and adults. The vouchers are provided to Prevent Blindness Wisconsin through Prevent Blindness and their partnerships with Vision Service Plan (VSP) and EssilorLuxottica. The program covers an eye exam and/or glasses for those who qualify. This past fiscal year, 287 clients used vouchers to access needed vision care.



PARTNER SUCCESSES

“Having Messmer High School students come in and screen our students is such a neat model. Some are even vision screening their siblings and seeing the impact it can have on their own family members! It holds the students accountable, shows them what grace and doing good is all about and keeps it within the Archdiocese community. St. Rose has not received vision screening in over 6 years. Because of these students and the high school’s leadership, it makes many things possible for our elementary students. We want to continue this model for years to come!”

—MARY HANRAHAN,
SOCIAL WORKER AT MESSMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

“A client of ours reached out to our team very concerned about her children and their vision. Her children were struggling inside and outside the classroom. She was very worried as she did not have any vision insurance and did not have the means to pay out-of-pocket for both children to be seen by the eye doctor. Our Community Health Educator conducted vision screenings on both children, and they did not pass. This family went through PBW’s Vision Care Voucher Program and both children were able to receive a free eye exam and a pair of glasses. The children’s smiles during the exam process and after receiving their glasses truly said it all. They are so happy that they can see better! Thank you for this partnership—we are able to help our clients with a variety of their needs now.”

—CASA GUADALUPE EDUCATION CENTER, INC.



“The programs enabled me to receive needed eye care that I have not received in the past. The programs and their partners are, in a sense, angels among us. I received an eye exam, which I have never had in the past. I received glasses as well and I can see much better and they have relieved stress on my eyes. I can see things now that I was never able to see before. Thank you very much. I am very grateful!”

—YOLANDA, WELL WOMAN
& VSP VISION CARE VOUCHER CLIENT

SAVING SIGHT, TOGETHER

Thank you to our donors for helping us bring our vision for each Wisconsin resident to bring healthy vision into focus!

For a full listing of our funders and donors, or to learn more about how you can help, please visit our website at: [wisconsin.preventblindness.org](https://www.wisconsin.preventblindness.org)

Swing for Sight

The 27th Annual Swing for Sight Golf Outing had a great day for an awesome group of golfers. We had 24 foursomes join us for a day of golf and support of our mission at the Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon.

Eye Walk for Sight

This year we brought back the walk to the Milwaukee County Zoo. We had 81 walkers sign up to join us. We had food, games, and an inspiring speech from our 2022 Ambassador Gemario and his family. Gemario and Seemore Mouse kicked off the walk and led the walkers through the Zoo.

Celebrity Waiters Dinner

The 42nd Annual Celebrity Waiters Dinner was back at the lovely Grain Exchange. We celebrated the Dengel Family as our Community Partner Award Winner. 190 PBW supporters joined us for an evening of wine, fine dining, and philanthropy for preventing blindness.





731 North Jackson Street
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OUR VISION IS FOR EACH WISCONSIN RESIDENT TO HAVE HEALTHY VISION AT EVERY STAGE OF LIFE.

“Your vision screening and voucher program has changed my life. I’ve noticed such an improvement in my daily life. My glasses make me feel more secure and calmer. I suffer from anxiety and my blurry vision would frustrate me because I could not distinguish letters as I was reading, but now it is so much better. I don’t have to force my vision to see small letters and am simply happy. Thank you for your programs!”

– GUILLERMO SALGADA,
VSP VISION CARE VOUCHER CLIENT



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.

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