AGENDA

DAY 1: July 12, 2023

Exhibit Hall: 11:00am-4:30pm Eastern
Explore the exhibit hall and download information available from our event sponsors. Email communications will be available with exhibit staff. Some booths will also have video and text chat options available.

11:30am-12:20pm Eastern
SESSION 1: Opening Remarks & Keynote Presentation
Keynote Presentation – Why the Eye: Advances in Eyecare and the Impact on the Patient
The goal of the keynote is to discuss how recent innovations are advancing eye care and how these innovations are impacting the patient.
• Moderator: Jeff Todd, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness
• Neil Bressler, MD, Editor-in-Chief, JAMA Ophthalmology; Professor of Ophthalmology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

12:35-1:25pm Eastern
SESSION 2: Why the Eye: Making an Impact With the Stories We Tell
The goal of this session is to discuss through a roundtable format how data, social media and patient advocacy can be used to tell a story around the importance of vision and eye health.
• Moderator: Kevin D. Frick, PhD, Johns Hopkins Carey Business School
• Patrice Marie Hicks, PhD, MPH, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Michigan
• Sila Bal, MD, MPH, Cornea and Refractive Surgery Fellow, Harvard Ophthalmology
• Christina Gill, Global Family Coordinator, Know the Glow
SESSION 3: 2023 Rising Visionary Award
The Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award is presented annually to a student or resident in a health-related field who submits the best overall application and essay addressing the 2023 Focus on Eye Health Summit theme: Why the Eye?
- Moderator: Jim McGrann, Board Chair, Prevent Blindness
- Christina Ambrosino, MD candidate, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

SESSION 4: Why the Eye: Reimagining How We Engage Communities from Identification into Care – Children and Adults
The goal of this session is to discuss through a roundtable format how communities overcome barriers from identification to care by addressing access, cultural and language barriers, transportation and use of telemedicine.
- Moderator: Tami Garcia, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness Wisconsin
- Verian Wedeking, Program Director, OHSU Casey Eye Institute Community Outreach
- Mayhoua Moua, Executive Director, Milwaukee Consortium for Hmong Health, Inc.
- Ellen K. Antwi-Adjei, OD, MPH, Vision Science Graduate Program Trainee, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry
- Mercedes Hernández, MPH, CHES, Director of Child and Family Health, East Coast Migrant Head Start Project

SESSION 5: 2023 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health & Closing Remarks
The Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health is presented annually to an individual, group or organization that has made significant contributions to the advancement of public health related to vision and eye health at the community, state, national and/or international level.
- Moderator: Jim McGrann, Board Chair, Prevent Blindness
- Dean A. VanNasdale, OD, PhD, FAAO, Associate Professor, The Ohio State University College of Optometry
- Jeff Todd, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness

DAY 2: July 13, 2023

Exhibit hall: 11:30am-3:30pm Eastern
Explore the exhibit hall and download information available from our event sponsors. Only email communication with exhibit booths will be available this day.
11:30am-12:15pm Eastern

SESSION 1: Opening Remarks & Keynote Presentation

Keynote Presentation – Why the Eye: Innovative Mental Health Approaches

The goal of this session is to discuss the importance of and share actionable steps for integrating mental health into the vision and eye health community, share examples of how mental health has integrated in other health areas, and end with lessons learned and key takeaways for the vision and eye health community.

- Moderator: Jeff Todd, President & CEO, Prevent Blindness
- Julian Eaton, BSc, MSc, MBBS, MRCPsych, Mental Health Director, CBM Global; Assistant Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

12:30-2:30pm Eastern

SESSION 2: Why the Eye: Forum on the Public Health Connection Between Mental Wellness and Vision

The goal of this forum is to discuss the importance of integrating mental health and vision and eye health; provide an overview of findings from the Prevent Blindness mental health task force; discuss in a roundtable with various providers around awareness, training, and resources available and needed; explore an integrated care model; and learn from the patient experience.

Moderator: Steven M. Silverstein, PhD, Professor of Psychiatry, Neuroscience, and Ophthalmology, University of Rochester Medical Center

Patient Perspective
- Carol Johnson, Prevent Blindness ASPECT Patient Engagement Program Graduate

Public Health Case Around Mental Health and Vision
- Varshini Varadaraj, MD, MPH, Research Associate, Johns Hopkins Disability Health Research Center

Overview of Prevent Blindness Issue Brief – Vision Loss and Mental Health: Key Takeaways from an Interprofessional Task Force
- Julie Grutzmacher, MSW, MPH, Director of Patient Advocacy & Population Health Initiatives

Provider Roundtable Discussion
- Melissa Taussig, MA, LCPC, Private Practice
- K. Thiran Jayasundera, MD, MS, Paul R. Lichter Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Michigan
- Rochelle Neutra, MSN, FNP-BC, Patient; Provider; Advocate; Prevent Blindness ASPECT Program Graduate
- Kelly Scherer, OD, Director of Clinical Services, The Lighthouse Chicago

Patient Perspective
SESSION 3: Session & Closing Remarks

Why the Eye: Policy Opportunities and Obstacles Around Vision and Mental Wellness

The goal of this session through a fireside chat is to identify the separate and mutual policy obstacles and opportunities that exist within the vision and eye health and mental wellness communities, and to determine how both communities can work together to ensure patients facing vision loss are connected to the mental health care they need to maintain well-being.

- Moderator: Jennifer Dexter, Vice President of Policy, National Health Council
- Sara D. Brown, MPA, Director of Government Affairs, Prevent Blindness
- Angela Kimball, Senior Vice President of Advocacy and Public Policy, Inseparable