



*Our vision is to preserve a lifetime of sight for all Georgians, especially children, seniors, and those without access to eye care, through vision screenings, eye exams, and education.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact  
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## **Southeast Atlanta Boys and Girls Club Members Benefit from MetroPCS / Prevent Blindness Georgia Partnership**

***About 225 Youths to Receive Free Vision Screenings Thanks to MetroPCS Customers Who Donated more than \$23,000 to Prevent Blindness Georgia***

**ATLANTA – (June 12, 2008)** – Kids and teens, ages six to 18 years old, who attend The Joseph B. Whitehead Boys and Girls Club in Southeast Atlanta, will benefit from a partnership forged between MetroPCS and Prevent Blindness Georgia (PBGA). All the boys and girls will have their vision screened next Wednesday, June 18, from 2 – 6 p.m. by staff from PBGA with volunteer assistance from MetroPCS employees. These same employees and MetroPCS customers raised more than \$23,000 through a six week in-store campaign this spring to sponsor vision screenings in their communities.

Nneka Carter, Joseph B. Whitehead Boys and Girls Club Executive Director, is looking forward to the vision screenings. "It's a great opportunity to determine if these kids have vision issues. We need to give them what they need to be successful," she said.

In addition to the vision screenings, MetroPCS will send 25 club members to a day-long experience at the 2008 MetroPCS All Star Football Camp where they will interact with National Football League players and learn drills. According to Carter, the recipients, both boys and girls, will be chosen based on how well they complete their "Triple Play" goals. These goals encompass a program with three components – body – physical fitness, mind – healthy habits, and soul – healthy relationships.

This spring's partnership between MetroPCS and Prevent Blindness Georgia helped to meet PBGA's goal of preventing blindness and preserving sight for all Georgians – through education, direct services, fundraising, and public awareness. Nearly 3,000 MetroPCS customers visited their local stores during the campaign and contributed funds to this partnership by purchasing mobiles. At the same time, Prevent Blindness Georgia staffers provided vision screenings for more than 500 people visiting the stores. Financially eligible candidates who failed the vision tests were given free eye

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an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America

exams and checked for eye diseases, such as glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy. If needed, they were fitted with new glasses.

“MetroPCS joined forces with Prevent Blindness Georgia to educate their customers about the importance of eye health and raise needed funds to provide vision care in the neighborhoods they serve,” said Cindy Bachman, Vice President of Development for Prevent Blindness Georgia. “This campaign has helped many people, not only those who otherwise cannot afford proper eye care, but also those who didn’t understand their risks for eye disease. The impact of this campaign goes far beyond the dollars raised.”

James Moreland, Vice President and General Manager, MetroPCS Atlanta, said, “ This program was a success because of the generosity of our customers, who provided a means for their neighbors to get free eye care, in addition to supporting a very worthy cause.”

Prevent Blindness Georgia has helped thousands of Georgia residents this year prevent blindness and preserve sight through vision screenings for children and adults, eye exams and glasses for indigent seniors, the homeless and working poor adults, public education on eye health and safety to persons at risk for eye disease, and vision screening training.

**About Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta**

For more than 65 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta, a private, nonprofit organization, have been in the forefront of youth development, working with young people from disadvantaged economic, social, and family circumstances. The clubs have provided children with a positive place to go, results-oriented programming, and a professional staff to guide them. Last year, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta served more than 15,000 young people through its 21 full-time Clubs in 11 metro counties. The cost of providing services to a member for a year is \$900, but in order to serve effectively those who need services most, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta ask families to pay annual membership dues of only \$35 per child. No child is turned away due to an inability to pay. For more information, please visit [www.bgcma.org](http://www.bgcma.org).

**About MetroPCS Communications, Inc.**

Dallas-based MetroPCS Communications, Inc. (NYSE: PCS) is a provider of unlimited wireless communications service for a flat-rate with no signed contract. MetroPCS owns or has access to licenses covering a population of approximately 140 million people in 14 of the top 25 largest metropolitan areas in the United States, including New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Miami, Orlando, Sarasota, Tampa, Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento. As of March 31, 2008, MetroPCS had approximately 4.4 million subscribers and offers service in the Miami, Orlando, Sarasota, Tampa, Atlanta, Dallas, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas and Sacramento metropolitan areas. For more information, please visit [www.metropcs.com](http://www.metropcs.com).

**About Prevent Blindness Georgia**

Prevent Blindness Georgia was founded in 1965 as the state affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, the nation’s leading volunteer eye health and safety organization. Its mission is to prevent blindness and preserve sight for the residents of Georgia through vision screenings for children and adults, eye exams and glasses for indigent seniors, the homeless, and working poor adults, public education on eye health and safety to persons at risk for eye disease, and vision screening training. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. For more information or to make a contribution to the sight-saving fund, visit [www.pbga.org](http://www.pbga.org) or call 404-266-2020.

Photos and video may be shot during vision screenings. Contact Barbara Myers, Prevent Blindness Georgia, 770-309-0613, [bmyers@pbga.org](mailto:bmyers@pbga.org), for scheduling in advance. On Wednesday, June 18, please contact Carter Asbill, Prevent Blindness Georgia, 404-213-0093.

For further information about the Boys & Girls Club, contact:

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Nneka Carter  
*Executive Director*

Jadon Black  
*Program Director*

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