

...preventing blindness and preserving sight

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Operation I Care

## Prevent Blindness Tennessee

Prevent Blindness Tennessee is a statewide non-profit health agency dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight. Prevent Blindness Tennessee (PBT) has been in existence for 28 years and has demonstrated the capacity to develop vision related programs. In 1978, PBT began conducting vision screenings for children in the greater Nashville area. Today Prevent

Blindness Tennessee conducts screenings, trainings, and provides educational material and referrals for children and adults, in 78 of Tennessee's 95 counties. We provide vision screenings, low cost or free eye exams and glasses, information, and referrals as well as education. As an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, we are a 501(c)(3)

corporation. In addition to the on-site adult services offered, Prevent Blindness Tennessee continues to provide vision screenings and eyeglasses to school children ages 6-18. In 2006-07, PBT served more than 200,000 individuals in 78 of 95 counties across Tennessee.

## A Message From the Chairman

Dear friends,

A person never really understands just how far they've come until they look behind to see the path they've walked— and PBT has blazed a few trails this past year! This 2006-07 Annual Report will walk you down many of the trails of last year.

We've accomplished so much in so little time: our programs and community outreach efforts surpassed our goals early in the fiscal year. We moved to a new space that allowed us to add an eye examination room and a classroom. PBT's Altered Vision exhibit was the largest public education event ever recorded in the state of Tennessee. Last but not least, we had our first annual gala to celebrate the teamwork of Prevent Blindness Tennessee, Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology (TAO), and the Tennessee Optometric Association (TOA). As a result of this collaboration and the "Altered Vision" exhibit, Prevent Blindness

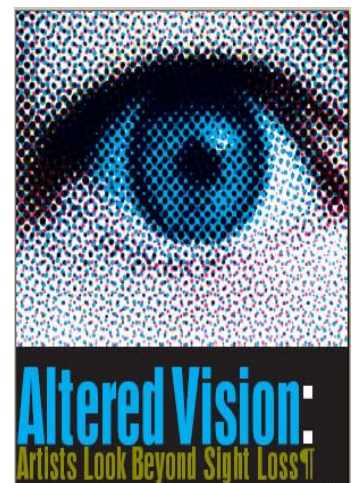
Tennessee is a finalist for the Frist Foundation Award of Achievement in the "Innovation in Action" category.

We've garnered great support from new friends and deepened existing relationships. Sue Chasteen, Executive Director, of the TAO has been a great help in our endeavor to pioneer our efforts in West Tennessee, as well as Tom Odom, Executive Director of the TOA in helping us to partner with the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis. As Chairman of the Board of Directors, I want to express our gratitude for all of our wonderful M.D.'s and O.D.'s who freely give of their time and money to give back to their communities by volunteering to help serve so many very poor children and seniors.

We've had many changes in the last year and change can be difficult without a few support systems in place to help meet or exceed our goals. Based on the existing

strong support system in our communities, and our medical professionals, and volunteers, Prevent Blindness Tennessee will be able to accomplish even greater things for the citizens in our great state. Thank you for your continued support – it means so much to all of us at PBT.

Brenda McClain,  
Chairman



## Program Descriptions

### Glaucoma

GLAUCOMA CAN RESULT from increased pressure on the optic nerve, causing loss of sight over time. A person can have "normal" pressure and still develop glaucoma. It is commonly called the "sneak thief of sight" because it is painless and many people don't notice it until they have lost a great deal of their peripheral vision.

GLAUCOMA IS A leading cause of blindness among African Americans. You are at greater risk for glaucoma if you are age 55 or older, African American or Hispanic, very near-sighted, have diabetes, or have a family history of glaucoma.



IF GLAUCOMA IS DISCOVERED early, medical treatment usually prevents further damage. Laser treatment or surgery may be needed in advanced cases. However, sight destroyed by glaucoma cannot be restored.

THE BEST DEFENSE against glaucoma is prevention. Those age 55 or older should get a complete eye exam at least once every two years.

Prevent Blindness Tennessee has programs that serve the two extremes of the age spectrum— children and seniors. Existing activities are as follows,

**Children's Programs.** Prevent Blindness Tennessee's **Operation I Care** is a children's program that has been providing free eye care for children in Tennessee for over 18 years. This program is unique because it provides comprehensive vision services to needy children including screenings, referrals, eye exams, and glasses. Additionally, Prevent Blindness Tennessee partnered with Vision Service Plan, the nation's oldest and largest managed vision care plan, to provide free eye examinations and eyeglasses. Through Prevent Blindness screenings, children across the state of Tennessee who are identified as needing a professional eye exam are referred to VSP's

**Sight for Students** program. Those that are under 18 years of age and attending school receive a voucher for free eye exams and glasses.

**Adult Programs.** Prevent Blindness Tennessee's **Adult Vision Screening Program** screens thousands of adults each year in an effort to eliminate preventable blindness in Tennessee. In each case, trained personnel discuss the screening results with the client and recommends follow-up eye care. An additional program that serves adults is the **Senior/Adult Sight Outreach** program. The Adult Sight Outreach program provides education, screenings, eye examinations, and free eyeglasses. Currently, in the greater Nashville area, Prevent Blindness Tennessee provides these services in "make shift" rooms of community social services programs.

**Training Program.** Prevent Blindness provides certified vision screening training programs for children and adults as well as a comprehensive photo screening training program with the MTI photo screening camera.

**Education.** Prevent Blindness Tennessee is a resource on eye health and safety topics. Prevent Blindness offers a catalog of educational materials, eye disorders brochures, videos, posters, vision screening materials and newsletters.

We publish "Living with Sight Loss," a resource manual for those living with low vision and "Vision Resource Guide," a reference guide designed especially for school teachers, nurses and caseworkers in the Nashville area.

## Thanks to Our Volunteers

### Thanks to Gavin Maloy.

J. Gavin Maloy, Jr., not only served as Chairman of the Board of Director for the last two fiscal years, he provided the Board leadership during the transition from Alice Orr (President of PBT for more than 22 years) to the current President, Donna Miller.

In addition to serving on the Board of Directors, Gavin, frequently, volunteered as a certified screener. Now, Gavin Maloy is a member of the PBT Advisory Board.

"Thanks, Gavin, for all of your hard work!"

The programs of Prevent Blindness Tennessee would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers and community supporters. Enough cannot be said about our professionals. Eye doctors and opticians volunteer their time to provide free services to needy Tennesseans across the state.

Clients served by PBT are individuals who simply would not be able to engage an eye doctor or have a pair of glasses without our programs, and our programs could not exist without our volunteers.

In 2006/07 we tracked the donation of our volunteer professionals and learned that their donation of time provided Prevent Blindness Tennessee with almost \$52,900 of in-kind services.

To volunteer in our vision clinic at 95 White Bridge Road, Suite 312, Nashville,

Call Jeane Ostenfeld at (615) 352-0450.

Special thanks to the eye care professionals who volunteered the most hours, in 2006-07:

**Bruce Herron, M.D.**  
The Eye Clinic

**Bernard Chang, M.D.** The Cornea Consultants of Nashville

**Brad Kehler, O.D.**  
Vanderbilt Eye Institute

**Daxx Dunn, O.D.**

**Christy Armstrong, and Marcus Merrell,** opticians, from Lens Crafters.

## A Year in Review

### The Aging Eye Symposium

Prevent Blindness Tennessee designed and implemented a statewide vision symposium focusing on vision problems of seniors in Tennessee. The symposium was the culmination of intense program planning. The program acted as a foundation to begin relationship building among interested agencies. The symposium targeted seniors and people who serve seniors. Ophthalmologists and optometrists educated attendees about vision problems in our state. It is our hope that the symposium along with activities leading up to it will continue to encourage long-term coalition building and collaborative efforts.

Support for the symposium was provided by the Centers for Disease Control, Prevent

Blindness America, Baptist Healing Trust, Gannett Foundation, the Memorial Foundation, and the Tennessee Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

### Head Start Staff Learn to Test Children's Vision

Shelby County Government and YMCA Head Start staff learned to test children's vision and identify signs of potential eye health problems during PBT's certified vision screening training program last fall. More than 3,000 children in Shelby County Head Start programs may benefit from vision screenings.

"We are excited to work with the Shelby County Government Head Start office and Prevent Blindness Tennessee to provide our staff with the skills and knowledge needed to identify

children's vision problems," said Dr. Forestene L. London, Executive Director, YMCA of Memphis and the Mid-South Head Start Program. "This enables us to track the vision needs of Head Start children throughout the program year." An estimated one in 20 preschool children has an eye problem. Studies indicate that unresolved vision deficits could impair the ability to respond fully to educational instruction. "A screening does not replace a professional eye examination but it can help identify problems early," said Mary Worthy, PBT Director of Programs and Community Outreach. "Early detection and education are keys to preventing unnecessary vision loss." In 2006-07, PBT screened 4,856 preschoolers, provided eye examinations to 212 children and eyeglasses for 186 children.

### PBT Opens New Vision Services Center for Uninsured Tennesseans

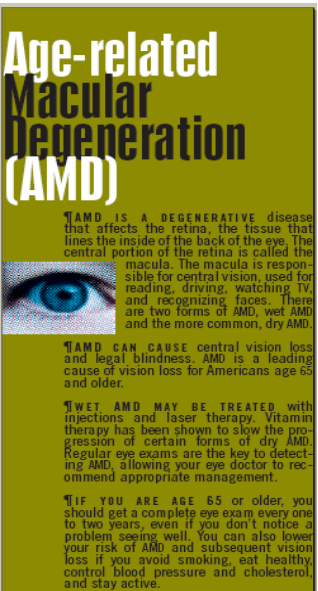
Prevent Blindness Tennessee (PBT) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house on August 24, 2006 to commemorate the grand opening of its new on-site vision services center. The vision center, located in west Nashville, provides vision services which include vision screenings, eye exams, and eyeglasses to uninsured adults age 40 and older and underinsured seniors age 55 and older who don't qualify for services through other social service programs. Services to clients are administered free or on a sliding fee basis according to income. The vision center

also offers support group meetings for families dealing with vision loss and educational seminars on eye health issues.

Prevent Blindness Tennessee's Vision Services Center presents a multitude of vision services in one location. Volunteer eye care professionals conduct vision examinations to diagnose eye problems, prescribe eyeglasses, make referrals, and simultaneously identify related medical conditions. Additionally, if eyeglasses are needed, the client may see an on-site optician, who will measure and fit for glasses. "Our goal is to provide a place for working, uninsured adults who can't afford eye

healthcare to receive vision services that help prevent unnecessary blindness," said Donna Miller, PBT President and CEO. "In the process we will also work to empower at risk populations to make better health decisions and live healthier lives, and use vision care as an entry point for uninsured adults to connect with primary healthcare."

Capital support for the vision center was provided by, The HCA Foundation and The Frist Foundation. Program support was provided by the HCA Foundation, Baptist Healing Trust and funds raised in the community.



**Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD)**

AMD is a DEGENERATIVE disease that affects the retina, the tissue that lines the inside of the back of the eye. The central portion of the retina is called the macula. The macula is responsible for central vision, used for reading, driving, watching TV, and recognizing faces. There are two forms of AMD, wet AMD and the more common, dry AMD.

AMD CAN CAUSE central vision loss and legal blindness. AMD is a leading cause of vision loss for Americans age 65 and older.

WET AMD MAY BE TREATED with injections and laser therapy. Vitamin therapy has been shown to slow the progression of certain forms of dry AMD. Regular eye exams are the key to detecting AMD, allowing your eye doctor to recommend appropriate management.

IF YOU ARE AGE 65 or older, you should get a complete eye exam every one to two years, even if you don't notice a problem seeing well. You can also lower your risk of AMD and subsequent vision loss if you avoid smoking, eat healthy, control blood pressure and cholesterol, and stay active.



Mary Worthy became our new Director of Programs and Community Outreach, on June 12, 2006.

She has a Masters in Public Administration from Tennessee State University.

## Contributing Artist

Trent Boysen  
Jane Braddock  
Richard Feaster  
Lannie Gannon  
Paul Harmon  
Byron Jorjorian  
Megan Lightell  
Julia Martin  
Carrie McGee  
Sue Mulcahy  
Griffin Norman  
Bob Schalz  
Terry Thacker  
Lain York

## Altered Vision Art Exhibit Offers Rare Glimpse Into the World of Sight Loss

The Altered Vision exhibit may have been conceived by Prevent Blindness Tennessee President, Donna Miller, but the exhibit was made possible by 14 local artists, under the leadership of Prevent Blindness Tennessee board member and artist Anna Jaap.

The art exhibit entitled "Altered Vision: Artists Looked Beyond Sight Loss" opened at the Nashville Public Library in the mezzanine, Courtyard Gallery. The exhibit was shown from January 15 to March 15, 2007. Altered Vision was comprised of a broad variety of work, including paintings, drawings and three-dimensional pieces. Work is not

linked by theme or content, but rather by the clarity and strength of the artist's vision. The artists created works specifically for the show while wearing glasses that simulate an eye condition such as cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, or macular degeneration. These "altered" pieces were displayed alongside a work of similar content from the artist's current body of work, allowing viewers to see and experience first-hand the impact of compromised sight upon an artist's creative process.

In addition to the artwork, the artists shared their subjective experience of frustration and accommodation as well as compassion. "The artists gave a remarkable and selfless body of work, one that will not only sharpen the viewers' awareness

of eye health but also change forever how they see the world around them," said Anna Jaap, PBT Board Member. "The reality is that sight loss can be prevented in most of these cases through early detection and education."

An estimated 150,000 Tennesseans viewed the exhibit and were reminded that sight loss can be prevented in most cases through early detection and education.

The exhibit would not have been possible without the collaboration of the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology and the Tennessee Optometric Association.

*An estimated 150,000 Tennesseans viewed the "Altered Vision" exhibit.*

## First Annual Celebration of Sight Gala

Nearly 200 eye care professionals and supporters from across the state joined together in Nashville for the first annual Celebration of Sight Gala to recognize their contributions to prevent blindness and to raise funds to support programs that provide vision health services to at risk populations in Tennessee. The event was the first of many collaborations between Prevent Blindness Tennessee (PBT), the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology (TAO), and the Tennessee Optometric Association (TOA) to educate the public, engage the community, involve eye care providers to reach poor, uninsured Tennesseans. During the celebration David Condra was honored as the recipient of the 2007 Prevent Blindness Tennessee 20/20 Lifetime of Service Award.

Dr. Jerre Minor Freeman, M.D. was the recipient of the 2007 Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology 20/20 Lifetime of Service Award.

The Southern College of Optometry received the 2007 Tennessee Optometric Association 20/20 Lifetime of Service Award.

Carl C. Awh, M.D., Retina-Vitreous Associates, Nashville stated, "So many Tennesseans are dedicated to the fight against blindness and the 'Celebration of Sight' was a wonderful reminder of the progress we've made and the advancements we continue to make in this effort. What a wonderful inaugural event!"

Lori Ann Kehler, O.D., Vanderbilt Eye Institute, Nashville stated, "I truly enjoyed the Celebration of Sight Gala. It was a pleasure to see such talented people come together for the greater good."

**SAVE THE DATE NOW!!**

## Celebration of Sight Gala 2008

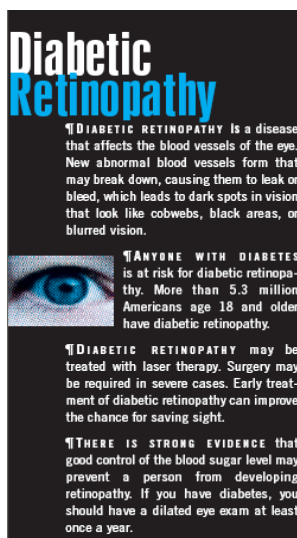
**The 2008 Celebration of Sight is scheduled for March 15, 2008 at Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum, in Nashville.**

### Co-Chairs of the event

Drs. Brad and Lori Kehler

And

Drs. Everton and Saundrett Arrindell



**Diabetic Retinopathy**

DIABETIC RETINOPATHY is a disease that affects the blood vessels of the eye. New abnormal blood vessels form that may break down, causing them to leak or bleed, which leads to dark spots in vision that look like cobwebs, black areas, or blurred vision.

ANYONE WITH DIABETES is at risk for diabetic retinopathy. More than 5.3 million Americans age 18 and older have diabetic retinopathy.

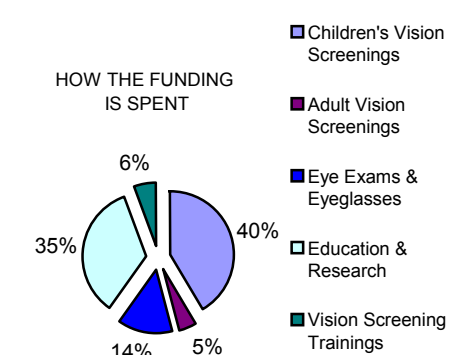
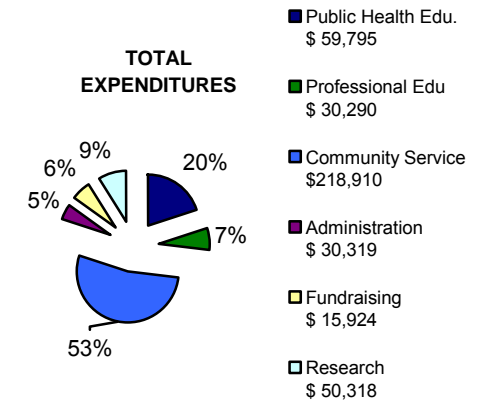
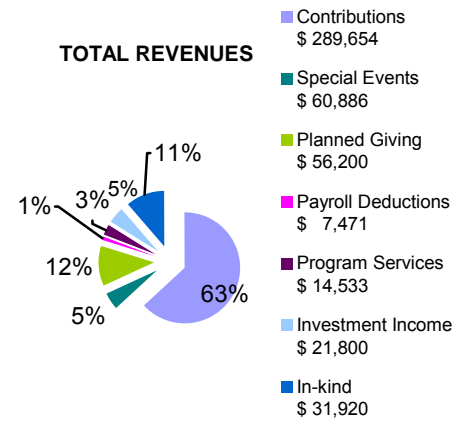
DIABETIC RETINOPATHY may be treated with laser therapy. Surgery may be required in severe cases. Early treatment of diabetic retinopathy can improve the chance for saving sight.

THERE IS STRONG EVIDENCE that good control of the blood sugar level may prevent a person from developing retinopathy. If you have diabetes, you should have a dilated eye exam at least once a year.

**Sponsorships Available**

**Statement of Activities  
Year Ending March 31, 2007**

<b>Public Support and Revenues</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Public Support:</b>		
Contributions	\$314,235	\$289,654
Special events, net income	\$24,558	\$60,886
Legacies and trusts	\$58,500	\$56,200
Combined service campaigns	\$5,299	\$7,471
Total Public Support	\$402,592	\$414,211
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Program service revenue	\$16,481	\$14,533
Net investment income	\$26,962	\$21,800
In-kind revenue	\$56,441	\$31,920
Miscellaneous income	\$872	\$31
Total Revenues	\$100,756	\$68,284
<b>Total public support and revenues</b>	<b>\$503,348</b>	<b>\$482,495</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
<b>Program Services:</b>		
Public health education	\$122,809	\$59,796
Professional education and training	\$36,055	\$30,290
Community services	\$251,772	\$218,910
Total program services	\$410,636	\$308,996
<b>Supporting Services:</b>		
General and administrative	\$24,422	\$30,319
Fund-raising	\$12,546	\$15,924
Total supporting services	\$36,968	\$46,243
Total program/supporting services	\$447,604	\$355,239
Affiliate support of national research programs	\$66,021	\$50,318
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$513,625</b>	<b>\$405,557</b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	-\$10,277	\$76,938
Net assets - beginning of year	\$440,172	\$363,234
Net assets - end of year	\$429,895	\$440,172



Note! During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, Prevent Blindness Tennessee replaced most of the computers, and telephone system as well as relocated to a larger space. These costs are reflected in the expense line of the statement of financial activities.

## 2006-07 Donors

April 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006

### New Members of the Prevent Blindness Tennessee Board of Directors



Everton Arrindell, M.D.



Brad Kehler, O.D.



Bruce Herron, M.D.



Dennis Mathew, O.D.

### Foundations

Baptist Healing Trust  
Bridgestone/Firestone Trust  
Cal Turner Family Foundation  
Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee  
Don Splawn Charitable Foundation  
E.B.S. Foundation  
Exchange Club Charities, Inc.  
Frist Foundation  
HCA Foundation  
Inez Rucker Craig Charitable Foundation  
Jack and Jill, Nashville Chapter  
Jewish Federation of Nashville  
Joe C. Davis Foundation  
Memorial Foundation  
Mick Foundation  
Nashville Predators Foundation  
Nashville Public Library Foundation  
Rich Foundation  
Rotary Foundation of Nashville  
T&T Family Foundation  
Wal-Mart Foundation  
Washington Foundation

### Corporations and Organizations

Allergan Pharmaceutical  
American Paper & Twine, Co.  
Bausch & Lomb  
Beaman Automotive Services  
Bell South Telecommunications, Inc.  
Black Box Network Services  
Centers for Disease Control  
Ed Parton Body Shop  
Eli Lilly  
First Trust Bank  
Frito-Lay, Inc.  
Ingram Entertainment, Inc.  
Johnson & Johnson Vision Care  
Merck & Co.  
Nashville Vision Associates  
Neely Coble Trucks  
Pinnacle National Bank  
Prevent Blindness America  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
St. Thomas Hospital  
SunTrust Bank  
Tennessee Commerce Bank

### To Make a Legacy Gift

Call Donna Miller,  
President  
(615) 352-0450

### Just Some of the Individuals

David Abernathy, Jr.  
Everton L. Arrindell, M.D.  
Carl C. Awh, M.D.  
Fred Cassetty  
William J. Collins  
James Conrad, M.D.  
Noble Crigler  
Hank and Robbie Davis  
Thomas Donnell, Jr.  
James W. Felch, M.D.  
C. Ann Harris  
Cynthia Harris  
Rick Hart  
Bruce Herron, M.D.  
Helen Hughes  
David A. Jarvis  
Karen M. Joos, M.D.  
Charlene Lebous  
James C. Loden, M.D.  
Brenda McClain & Tim Posser  
Ronald McFarland, M.D.  
Donna Miller & James Miller, M.D.  
Jerome Minion  
Alice Orr  
David Rollins  
Cal Turner, Jr.

*Other individuals in the community, too numerous to mention.*

### 2005-06 In-kind Donations

American Academy of Ophthalmology  
Door Tech of Nashville  
Jeff Gould  
Jan Giordano  
J.K. Computer Consultants, Inc  
Members of the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology  
Members of the Tennessee Optometric Association  
Caroline Trost  
Vanderbilt University, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

### To Make a Donation

Call Jennifer Gamble,  
V.P. Marketing and  
Development,  
(615) 352-0450

