I would like to thank everyone that is involved with this GREAT State Board of Directors

I am a single parent and was so concerned when my son, John, asked me why I was crying a lot. I thought he needed glasses, so I took him to the doctor and he did need them. He is now 8 years old and doing very well in school. I think that it is wonderful that you are doing this project. I want to let you know that my son, John, is now getting good grades and is doing well in school. Thank you for helping me with this project. I really appreciate it.

-Susan Johnson, Parent

Prevent Blindness Texas came into my life when I needed a second chance. In the last 2-3 years, things have been unravelling for many people, and I was one of them. People have been losing their jobs, their livelihood, their ability to meet their obligations and to an extent, their self-respect. In my case, I had lost all of these things. Each day people go about their lives completely unaware as to how quickly things can fall apart. Being able to see is one part of our lives that we assume will always be as strong as it ever was, but that is not true. Over time, many of us experience a gradual loss of vision. If we cannot pay to correct it, we may lose our ability to function as a member of the society and lose our ability to take care of ourselves.

Prevent Blindness Texas performs sight saving miracles like mine every day. People are given hope that their sight can be maintained so that they can go about their lives. This is a great and powerful voluntary agency, it does a great deal to help people retain their dignity and their hope for a future, and it gave me the chance to say “thanks” to them.

-James Saye, Client

State Board of Directors

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Annual Report 2009-2010

Focused on providing a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness Texas touches the lives of thousands of Texans through our sight-saving programs and services.

Sight for Students

We Screen

Saving Sight

WE SCREEN the eyes of thousands of children and adults each year. Our vision screenings help preschoolers at risk of vision loss from eye muscle imbalance, school children who depend on good vision for learning and adults threatened by glaucoma and other serious vision problems. Last year, Prevent Blindness Texas screened the eyes of 54,605 children and 23,624 adults.

WE EDUCATE the public through brochures, fact sheets, public service announcements, media campaigns, and special events. Our “Star Pupils” campaign, found by visiting starpupils.org, is designed to educate parents with information on children’s vision issues and to seek donations to provide disadvantaged children with access to vision care. Through our educational platforms and partnerships, including the “Sight for Students” and “Partners in Prevention” programs, Prevent Blindness Texas provided eye health information to more than 104,989 Texans and direct eye care services to 1,306 children and 9,577 adults.

WE TRAIN and certify adult and children’s vision screeners through the only national program of its kind, providing more than 200 volunteers with the skills they need to help people in their communities.

WE ADVOCATE by working with government officials at the state, local and national levels – building grassroots advocacy movements that will improve our nation’s public health policies and access to care.

Prevent Blindness Texas

Our Vision Is Vision™

Did you know?...

Half of all blindness is preventable.

Every 11 minutes someone goes blind.

1 out of 3 children in the U.S. do not receive critical eye care services before the age of six.

3.

Print like a letter to create a three-

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Our Mission is to prevent blindness, preserve sight and enhance and extend the quality of vision life for all Texans.

Debbie Goss  Dr. Michael Breckel, OD  
President & CEO  Chairman of the Board

Letter from CEO & Chairman of the Board

Last year alone, Prevent Blindness Texas and its volunteers screened 54,605 children and 23,642 adults and provided free eye exams and glasses to more than 10,000 Texans. Each day, the demand for our services grows and we work to find the resources we need to meet those needs. These are challenging times for sure, but we are focused and hopeful.

We are focused on training screeners so more children and adults can be screened for potentially blinding eye conditions and educated about ways to prevent vision loss. We are focused on being sure that those without access to care find that care through our Partners in Prevention program, a dedicated network of Ophthalmologists and Optometrists and partners like VSP and Luxottica that help us connect our clients with free eye exams, glasses and treatment.

We are hopeful. In this report you will see a long list of companies, foundations and individuals who believe strongly enough in our work to support our efforts. We are grateful to each and every one of them.

Every 11 minutes someone goes blind. Let’s work together to change that statistic.

Debbie Goss  Dr. Michael Breckel, OD  
President & CEO  Chairman of the Board

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