Description

The ***Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award*** recognizes significant efforts by an individual or group of individuals to improve public health approaches to children’s vision and eye health at the local, state or national level. The award was established in 2014 by the Advisory Committee of the National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness (NCCVEH) to commemorate Bonnie Strickland and her groundbreaking work to establish a comprehensive system for children’s vision in the US. She served as Director of the Division of Services for Children with Special Health Needs at the federal Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, before her retirement in 2014. Bonnie was as a powerful force, driving improved vision for children through strong national partnerships, innovative program approaches and improved national surveillance.

#### Criteria for Group Award

Nominees for the ***Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award*** – ***GROUP*** will be a group that is implementing changes to improve children’s vision in the United States by seeking out new and innovative solutions to barriers to healthy vision in children. Projects which demonstrate ***replicability and sustainability*** will be prioritized. Nominations should demonstrate an impact in one or more areas of a population health system supporting children’s vision:

* Key stakeholder engagement or collaboration, including representation from families and from diverse racial, ethnic, geographic, and socio-economic backgrounds
* Training and education
* Public awareness
* Provision of resources and/or services
* Surveillance and accountability
* Reduction of health inequities
* Vision and eye health infrastructure development at the local, state, or national level
* Connecting vision to overall health, early childhood development, and learning

#### Nature of the Award

The award will be presented to the recipient (individual OR group) at a special virtual meeting of the National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health (<http://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org>), on **Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 7pm ET**. The award consists of a commemorative plaque, recognition, and a virtual 30-minute presentation on October 29. The recipient group will be featured on the NCCVEH website with an overview of the innovative approaches to children’s vision and eye health systems. A recording of the presentation will be available on the NCCVEH website. **Nomination packets must be received by the deadline date of August 25, 2025.**

#### Nomination Process

**The nominator is responsible for submitting a complete nomination packet by the designated deadline.** The nomination packet is to include the following items *(incomplete nominations will not be considered)*:

* Completed nomination form.
* A listing of all group members, titles and professional affiliations; description of group’s mission, principles and summary of accomplishments in children’s vision/eye health.
* Letters of support are strongly recommended but not required. There is no limit on the number of letters. All letters must be received by the deadline of **August 25, 2025**.

#### Selection Process

* The ***Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award*** Committee will review all nominations and select one award winner (one individual OR a group will be selected).
* The award winner will receive notification by email. Additionally, a summary of the group’s activities and a group photo will be published on the NCCVEH website after September 29, 2025.

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| Deadline – August 25, 2025. Send nomination packet to:  Bonnie Strickland Champion for Children’s Vision Award Committee  [dfishman@preventblindness.org](mailto:dfishman@preventblindness.org) |

# About Prevent Blindness and its National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health

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# Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening and training, community and patient service programs and research. In 2009, Prevent Blindness established the National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health (NCCVEH), with support from the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Serving as a national resource for the establishment of a public health infrastructure, the NCCVEH advances and promotes children’s vision and eye care, providing leadership and training to public entities throughout the United States. The NCCVEH is advised by a committee of national experts and leaders from the fields of ophthalmology, optometry, pediatrics, nursing, family advocates and public health to guide the work and recommendations of the Center.

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# Visit us at [www.preventblindness.org](http://www.preventblindness.org), [A Lifetime of Healthy Vision - National Center (preventblindness.org)](https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/), or [www.facebook.com/preventblindness](http://www.facebook.com/preventblindness).

Purpose: To recognize significant efforts by a **group** to improve public health approaches for children’s vision and eye health at the state or national level. Submission deadline: **August 25, 2025**.

**NOMINEE INFORMATION**

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| **Group Name** |
| **Group Contact** |
| **Title** |
| **Organization** |
| **Mailing Address** |
| **City State Zip Code** |
| **Telephone Number Fax Number** |
| **Email** |
| **Project /Program Name (if applicable)** |

# NOMINATOR INFORMATION

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| --- |
| Full Name |
| Title |
| Organization |
| **Mailing Address** |
| **City**  **State**  **Zip Code** |
| **Telephone Number** **Fax Number** |
| **Email** |
| **Signature Date** |

NOMINATION BACKGROUND

*Please answer these questions on this form.* ***Narrative should be no longer than 8 pages.***

1. Please list the goals and objectives of the project for which the group is nominated.
2. Describe in detail the innovative approach for children’s vision and eye health taken by this nominee that makes this group worthy of the award. Please include information on:
3. Why and how the approach was developed.
4. How the approach/project/initiative is/was implemented.
5. Target audiences.
6. Settings- e.g., geographic locations.
7. Evidence supporting this approach.
8. Ways this approach addresses disparities in vision health.
9. Describe in detail the ***measurable impact in*** ***one or more*** of the areas of population health outlined above:
10. Key Stakeholder Engagement or Collaboration (e.g., including representation from families and diverse racial/ethnic/geographic and socio-economic levels target populations, multi-disciplinary professional involvement).
11. Training and Education (e.g., development of new family education, professional education, or professional training).
12. Public Awareness (e.g., innovative use of social media and other means of public awareness of children’s vision and eye health to drive improvements to systems or services, making the connection between vision and overall health, early childhood development and learning).
13. Provision of Resources and/or Services (e.g., specify how the nominated project integrates any of the [12 components of a strong vision health system for children](https://preventblindness.org/12-components-of-a-strong-vision-health-system-of-care/))
14. Surveillance and Accountability (e.g., initiating data collection for vision screening or eye care or development of performance measures on the local, state, or national level – in the areas of early childhood education, schools, healthcare, or public health).
15. Reduction of Health Inequities (e.g., targeting outreach, vision screening or access to care and treatment, or systems changes for children in underserved families or geographic areas).
16. Infrastructure Development- Local, State or National Level (e.g., creating a statewide vision screening or training program, development of a children’s vision commission or advisory committee on the state or national level, or initiating children’s vision staff positions on the local, state, or national level).
17. Making the connection between vision and overall health, early childhood development and learning (e.g., development of tool kits, research or innovative services that connect vision to overall health, child development, and learning.)
18. Describe any challenges that the nominee group had to overcome to be successful in improving the public health system for children’s vision.
19. Describe ways in which the approach/project/initiative is replicable at the local, state or national level and is sustainable.
20. List presentations, abstracts, or articles relevant to achievements on which nomination is based.
21. Describe how the actions of this nominee group will impact children’s vision into the future and the impact on children at high-risk for vision problems.