



For Immediate Release

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**Fight For Sight and Prevent Blindness America
Announce New Public Health Award**

NEW YORK (Dec. 1, 2012) – National non-profit organizations *Fight for Sight* and *Prevent Blindness America* announce co-sponsorship of a new annual public health research fellowship entitled “Fight for Sight-Prevent Blindness America Public Health Award.” The award is for a one-time \$20,000 grant for one year of full-time research on improving the public’s eye health and safety.

Candidates for the Fight for Sight-Prevent Blindness America Public Health Award are invited to apply by visiting <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ffs2013> and selecting the “Grant-In-Aid” link. Focus of proposed research may include:

- the burden/economic aspects of eye disease and vision loss on society;
- best practices in integrating vision screening and follow-up care with system care access; and
- vision program effectiveness and evaluation.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Feb. 1, 2013. Applications will be reviewed by the *Fight for Sight* Scientific Review Committee (SRC) and Prevent Blindness America representatives. The recipient will be announced in June 2013.

"Providing much-needed research funds for eye and vision health projects has been part of the mission of Prevent Blindness America for decades," said Hugh R. Parry, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness America. "It is our hope that by establishing programs like the Fight for Sight-Prevent Blindness America Public Health Award today, we can find new and creative ways to put an end to unnecessary vision loss in the near future."



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"Fight for Sight is delighted to partner with Prevent Blindness America by co-sponsoring a Public Health Fellowship to support future leaders in the field of ocular public health", said Norman J. Kleiman, PhD, president of the board of *Fight for Sight*. "This partnership with Prevent Blindness America will broaden our funded research portfolio by addressing much needed public health eye issues. It is the latest in a series of partnerships that *Fight for Sight* has forged with important eye and vision research foundations and organizations including The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Streilein Foundation for Ocular Immunology, North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society (NANOS), Aniridia Foundation International, Lions Eye Institute and Women's Eye Health.org."

For more information on the Fight for Sight-Prevent Blindness America Public Health Award, please email *Fight for Sight* at info@fightforsight.org, call our office at (212) 679-6060, or visit us on the web at www.fightforsight.org or on Facebook at facebook.com/fightforsight.

About *Fight for Sight*

Since 1946, *Fight for Sight* (FFS) has supported and inspired eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers. FFS has granted over \$20 million in research that has contributed directly or indirectly to major advances in ophthalmology and vision research, including development of the IOL, aspects of donor cornea preservation, various use of ophthalmic lasers, glaucoma treatment, and gene therapy.

About Prevent Blindness America

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness America 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 America 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. These services are made possible through the generous support of the American public. Together with a network of affiliates and regional offices, Prevent Blindness America is committed to eliminating preventable blindness in America. For more information, please call 1-800-331-2020. Or, visit us on the web at preventblindness.org or facebook.com/preventblindness.