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Vision 2020 USA to Hold Briefing on World Sight Day on new NASEM Report on Eye and Vision Health

CHICAGO (Oct. 5, 2016) – As part of [World Sight Day](#) on Thurs., Oct. 13, 2016, [Vision 2020 USA](#) will be holding a luncheon briefing at the Rayburn House Office Building, Room B-369 from noon to 1 p.m. The subject of the briefing will be the new National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Health and Medicine Division (NASEM) consensus study, "[Making Eye Health a Population Health Imperative: Vision for Tomorrow.](#)"

The report examines core principles and recommends public health strategies to reduce visual impairment and promote eye health in the United States. Scheduled panelists include:

- Lori Grover, OD, PhD, Senior Vice President for Health Policy, King-Devick Test, Inc.
- Eve Higginbotham, SM, MD, Vice Dean, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
- Meg McCoy, JD, MPH, Senior Program Officer, NASEM

Sponsors of the briefing include Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, American Academy of Ophthalmology, American Optometric Association, Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Casey Eye Institute, Helen Keller International, International Eye Foundation, Lighthouse Guild, Lions Club International Foundation, Optometry Giving Sight, Prevent Blindness, Seva Foundation, and Vision Impact Institute.

"Our hope for this briefing is to leverage this new report to elevate the dialogue about the importance vision and eye health to our nation," said Jeff Todd, chair of Vision 2020 USA and COO of Prevent Blindness. "We hope to then continue these discussions to increase appropriate funding, research, and programming to improve vision services across the lifespan."

To attend the Vision 2020 USA World Sight Day briefing and luncheon, please contact Dina Beaumont at (202) 407-8325 or dinabeau@aol.com.

About Vision 2020 USA

VISION 2020 USA has been organized to better coordinate the efforts of the many US organizations working in the field of blindness prevention, both nationally and internationally. VISION 2020 USA is committed to assuring the right to sight for all peoples both within the US and countries outside the US. Launched on April 30, 2009, nearly 40 organizations have come together under the VISION 2020 USA umbrella. VISION 2020 USA is the national entity within the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and its VISION 2020: The Right To Sight initiative. IAPB's mission is to eliminate the main causes of avoidable blindness and visual impairment by bringing together governments and non-governmental agencies to facilitate the planning, development and implementation of sustainable national eye care programs. IAPB promotes VISION 2020, its joint initiative with the World Health Organization (WHO).

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