
JOB OPENING: Director- National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness

SUPERVISOR: Vice President of Public Health and Policy

TARGET HIRE DATE: August 2018

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT – DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S VISION AND EYE HEALTH

Prevent Blindness and its National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health:

At Prevent Blindness, our mission is to prevent blindness and preserve sight. We work with the vision that all children are afforded the benefits of sight as they grow and learn; a vision that all adults are educated about proper eye health care and have access to that same care; a vision that necessary attention is provided to issues surrounding the aging eye; and a vision that no one needlessly loses his or her sight due to unsafe practices.

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness is the nation's leading eye health and safety organization dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight across all age spectrums and multiple eye conditions. We focus on improving the nation's vision and eye health by educating the American public on the importance of taking care of their eyes and vision by promoting advances in public health systems of care that support eye health needs, and by advocating for public policy that emphasizes early detection and access to appropriate eye care.

Prevent Blindness established our *National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health* (NCCVEH) in 2009 to strengthen the nation's public health system for children's vision, as well as our own capacity to better serve the needs of states in this important public health area. The mission of the Center is to improve children's vision across the full spectrum of care. Accomplishments to date include publication of national recommendations for a strong children's vision and eye health system, provision of technical assistance to state departments of health in the development and review of vision program guidelines, and partnership with key national organizations such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of School Nurses, and the National Head Start Association to refine approaches to children's vision. The NCCVEH is committed to conducting this work through strong partnerships, sound science, and targeted policy initiatives. The NCCVEH is funded, in part, by a grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration. Additional information about the NCCVEH can be found at <https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/>.

Director of the NCCVEH: The Director reports to the Vice President of Public Health and Policy for Prevent Blindness and is responsible for leading the NCCVEH's program implementation toward established measurable goals. This includes ensuring that the vision and eye health needs of the target population to be served are identified, manage ongoing communication among critical stakeholders, and engaging experts to move the vision and eye health agenda forward. The Director will work in partnership with Prevent Blindness staff to guide policy planning in areas that will impact the program objectives of the NCCVEH.

This position is designed to increase capacities at the national, state, and community level to offer effective vision and eye health for children and their families, targeting specifically vulnerable and high-risk populations. The Director of the NCCVEH is expected to provide guidance and vision to an Advisory Committee of diverse stakeholders in children's vision and eye health. Desired areas of expertise include but are not limited to health services research, public health, population health, epidemiology, public health informatics, and health disparities.

Position Duties:

- Providing technical assistance to federal and state agencies, as well as national organizations on system reform strategies that involve children's vision and eye health;
- Working in partnership with a diverse expert advisory committee to identify, leverage, and disseminate relevant research that can guide practice;
- Participating on national task forces to provide a cross-system voice in policy discussions;
- Facilitating collaboration and consensus between children's vision and eye health organizations as well as other child serving systems and organizations;
- Partnering with other organizations and national resource centers on specific initiatives to maximize resources and disseminate innovative practices;
- Producing nationally recognized documents and providing education on those documents; Writing proposals and project updates for grants to support the work of the NCCVEH

In addition, the Director of the NCCVEH participates in other programmatic activities of Prevent Blindness to align objectives across organizational efforts and among the Prevent Blindness affiliate system to contribute to the strategic plan.

Qualifications: MPH, MPHA, MSW, or related degree or commensurate professional experience will be considered. At least 5 years' experience in the public health system and in building cross-agency service systems is required. Additional experience in children's vision health from a public health perspective is preferred, but not essential. A successful candidate will have the ability to lead, work successfully with disparate groups, build partnerships, and to think systemically, analytically and strategically. Candidates need to demonstrate a commitment to a system of care values and have experience in systems and service delivery at national, state and community levels, and to possess deep knowledge and understanding of: public health and educational systems, laws, policies, and mandates; and promising, evidence-based informed practices and interventions for children and youth in various child serving systems.

The candidate must be proficient in oral and written communication, program evaluation, program promotion, as well as facilitation, training, conducting workshops and presentations. Candidates with experience writing and executing federal-level grant programs are preferred. Candidates located in the Chicago or Washington D.C. area preferred, but qualified candidates from other areas can be considered.

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities:

- Computer literacy
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to travel independently throughout the United States
- Able to be self-directed

- Ability to distinguish significant opportunities, and to set goals
- Ability to carry on simultaneously a variety of programs and activities
- Ability to lift 25 lbs.
- Ability to sit for long periods of time
- Ability to maintain confidentiality

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter indicating programmatic interests, vision for the NCCVEH, a description of your preferred leadership/mentoring style, salary requirements, and a resume or curriculum vitae in a single pdf file to Sharon Norton, Manager of Administrative Services for Prevent Blindness at snorton@preventblindness.org by July 6, 2018. Prevent Blindness is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer fully dedicated to achieving a diverse staff.