



Partners for
Pediatric Vision
Keeping Kids in Sight

Annual Report 2018



Keeping Kids in Sight

We are dedicated to increasing the number of children receiving quality affordable vision care with the partnership model of Vision Educator and Eye Doctor.

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Partners for Pediatric Vision had a busy 2018 including the development of a 3-year strategic plan. Our core beliefs and mission are reflected in this year's annual report and inspire the work of our dedicated staff to provide exceptional services to children with visual impairment, their families and the communities we strive to strengthen.

Partners for Pediatric Vision established the collaborative model of Pediatric Eye Doctor and Vision Educator in 1991 to provide comprehensive vision care beyond the eye exam and most recently as our own non-profit founded in November 2016. This year's report highlights our success at expanding the opportunities for children and families throughout Southern California to benefit from vision education and support beyond the exam.

In 2018, Partners for Pediatric Vision staff served more than 430 children with visual impairment and their families through vision education, psychosocial support and access to affordable eye exams and low vision devices. Our focus in the upcoming year includes increasing our impact and services for those families living in underserved communities. Collaborative partnerships that began in 2018 will help us meet the needs of children at-risk for or experiencing visual impairment moving forward.

We envision a world where all children with visual impairment have equal access to the healthcare, education and support they need to be successful in life. On behalf of our staff, the families we serve and our professional partners, we thank our donors, supporters and volunteers for investing in our critical work. Together, we can turn possibilities into achievements for children with visual impairment.

With gratitude,

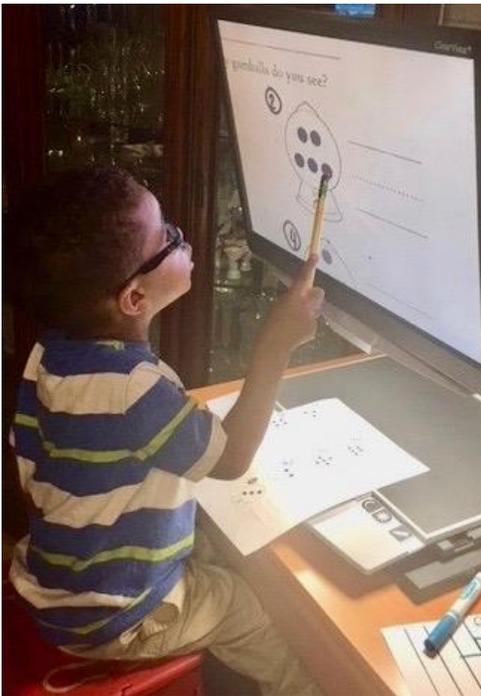


Tori Schladen

Our Mission: To turn possibilities into achievements for children with visual impairment and their families.

A Year in Review

Partners for Pediatric Vision worked alongside Low Vision Optometrists at clinics in Los Angeles and Orange counties helping families understand their child's visual diagnosis. Education was provided to help each child adapt to vision loss. In addition, we provided telephone support to families with questions about how to help their child. Ongoing information and guidance were provided to families by one of our Vision Educators that included emotional support, resources, education, encouragement and empowerment.



We helped parents cover the cost of low vision technology or glasses through our partnerships with the Lion's Club, John Thomas Dye School and Sight Savers of America. Partners for Pediatric Vision also connected children with vision loss and their families to a network of events and opportunities that included parent to parent support and mentorships that helped alleviate the stress and uncertainty of parenting a child with a disability.

Our first annual audio described movie event was held in December. Community partners including Krikorian Theatres, Mattel, Portillo's and Vistas for Children worked in collaboration to provide families receiving services from Partners for Pediatric Vision an opportunity to "watch" a movie with audio narration along with lunch and toys.

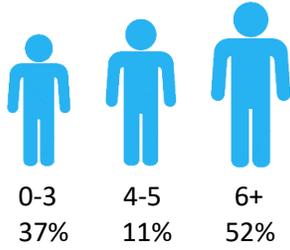
Partners for Pediatric Vision capitalized on our breadth of experience in the fields of Visual Impairment and Education by creating tools and resources emphasizing best practices for families and professionals.

Our Vision Educators, which include our Family Specialists, Assistant Director, Executive Director and Parent Educator, collaborated with the professionals who work with our children and families so that each member of the team can implement the most effective strategies for visual development. We strengthened early identification and referral networks by providing outreach to communities throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

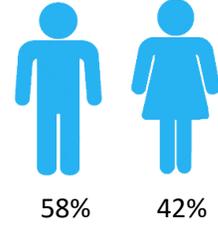


About Our Families

Ages

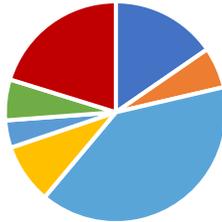


Gender

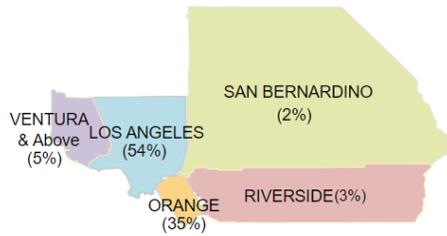


Children's Ethnicities

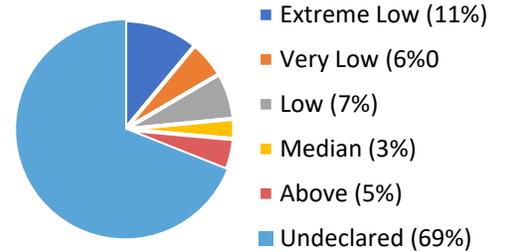
- White (15%)
- African-Am (6%)
- Hisp (40%)
- Asian (9%)
- Other (4%)
- Multiracial (6%)
- Undeclared (20%)



Where our Families Live



Family Income



How are we doing?

435 Children and their families received services

197 Children had an eye exam with a Vision Educator present

4 Partner Clinic Locations

300 Professionals received Training

100%

of families have a better understanding of their child's vision and can explain it to others

97%

of families identified individuals that are part of their support system

95%

of families reported less stress associated with raising a child with vision loss

100%

of families reported more optimism about their child's overall quality of life

100%

of families reported that their child benefitted from adaptations that took into account vision loss

97%

of families reported more confidence in raising a child with vision loss

97%

of families agreed that they feel more empowered to advocate for their child

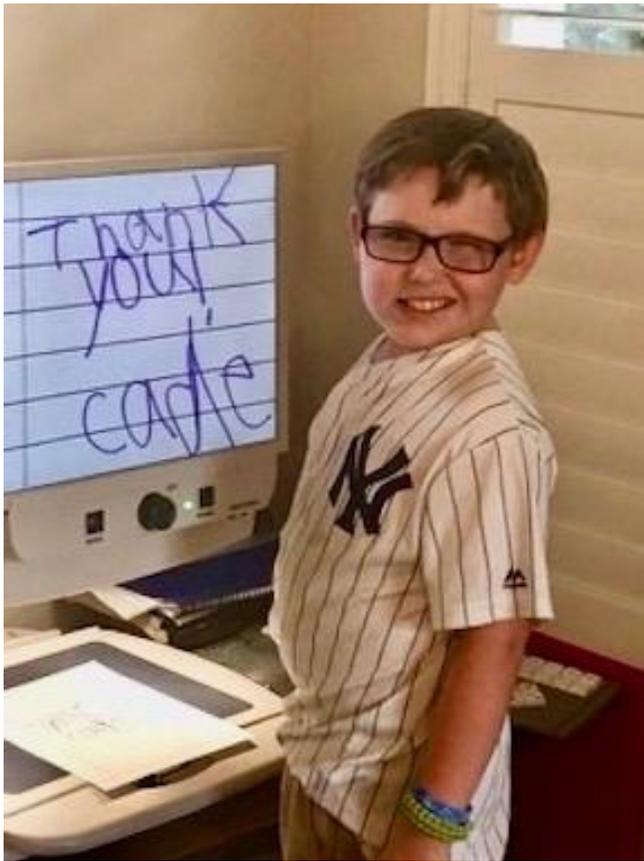
Our Impact



Dylan is an adorable 11-month-old with Oculocutaneous Albinism, nystagmus and esotropia. We learned Dylan was not receiving any vision services because when the regional center found him ineligible they neglected to inform his mother that Dylan qualifies for school district services. When we met Dylan's mother, she was unaware that there was anyone who could help her understand Dylan's diagnosis and provide early intervention. LAUSD's Vision Impairment Program was contacted right away and by the end of the exam, the referral was in place. Samantha, Dylan's Family Specialist, showed him how to make noise with one of our homemade high contrast coffee can drums. Dylan's mother came to the exam with a great deal of anxiety and left feeling supported, hopeful and informed.

Maddy is a sweet 20-month-old little girl with Bardet-Biedl Syndrome which causes deteriorating vision beginning with night vision loss and blind spots that can eventually produce tunnel vision. Other serious health complications are associated with this condition. Early vision intervention is critical for Maddy so she can learn how to accommodate for her current and future vision loss. Her Family Specialist, Beth, along with Dr. Catherine Heyman, one of our partner Pediatric Optometrists, spent time talking to her mother about learning strategies that pair vision with tactile and auditory cues to maximize Maddy's early development. Maddy's family will be followed closely to provide emotional support and intervention strategies as her vision changes.





Cade's mother, Erin, shared a wonderful quote about how much she appreciates the support and guidance she receives from Partners for Pediatric Vision: *"The collaboration we have received from Partners for Pediatric Vision has allowed Cade to be more independent. The magnifier allows him to access his materials. His Family Specialist is amazing, she is more than just a resource to us. She listens and cares about the effects of his vision impairment, at home and at school, and helps us bridge these two. She really cares about Cade's success."* Cade was diagnosed at age two with a brain tumor between his optic nerves. During one of his surgeries, he suffered a stroke that left him with limited use of the right side of his body and resulted in legal blindness. Since that time, Cade's family has received education and support services from Partners for Pediatric Vision. Cade began to read once he received an electronic video magnification system thanks to our partnership with Sight Savers America.

Excitement was building for months for our Audio Described Movie showing of *The Grinch* on December 2nd thanks to the generosity of Krikorian Theatres. Sixteen children with significant vision loss, their siblings and family members enjoyed "watching" the movie with additional descriptive narration through audio headsets. This uplifting holiday event included dessert sponsored by Portillo's and toys donated by Mattel.



What Our Partner Low Vision Doctors Say About Us

"Partners for Pediatric Vision provides much-needed support to families of children with low vision. As a Low Vision Optometrist, I witness firsthand how frustrating it can be for families to get the services they need for their children. Families are often confused and overwhelmed by information given to them by medical professionals, therapists, and teachers. Partners for Pediatric Vision has been instrumental in bridging the gap between families and the services they need. Whether it is contacting a child's in-home or school teacher to explain their diagnosis, helping to find funding or equipment, or simply providing a shoulder to cry on, Partners for Pediatric Vision plays a crucial role before, during, and after my examinations."

*Angela M. Shihady, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Low Vision Optometrist*

"Our partnership with Partners for Pediatric Vision enhances our clinical care and makes it more holistic in that PPV can take the time to follow up and guide the families on additional needs and answer questions that may not always arise during our exam. It gives the family time to process the exam and discussion, to think of questions and to become more familiar with the systems surrounding low vision care. I believe this is critical to maximizing a child with low vision's empowerment and their family's success in adapting to raising a child with visual impairment,"

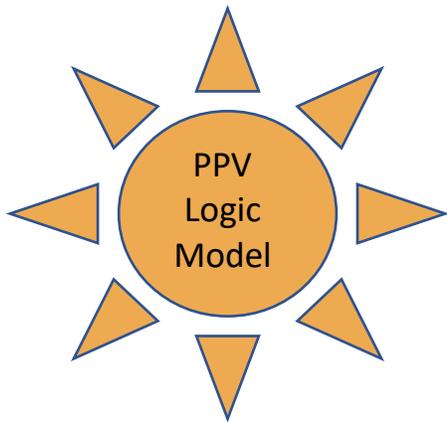
*Melissa Contreras, O.D., MPH, F.A.A.O.
Clinic Director,
University Eye Center Los Angeles*

Our Volunteers in Action



We are extremely grateful to our volunteers for their dedication and service to Partners for Pediatric Vision. Here is one example of their efforts in making a difference in the lives of children with vision loss.

The Binky Patrol is a group of volunteers who create beautiful handmade quilts, blankets and animals in order to brighten lives and bring smiles. Our families receive these incredible gifts at our partner low vision clinics. Recently, Judith and Jane, members of the Binky Patrol, were inspired to create interactive tactile play mats for our children with visual impairment. These play mats include high contrast colors and patterns and the variety of textures and fabrics are designed to encourage visual attention and tactile learning. We are grateful to the Binky Patrol for the time and creativity that goes into crafting these gifts of love.



IMPACT

Families with children who are visually impaired receive early pediatric eye care and support services that result in improved outcomes for their child, their family and the communities that serve them.

Community agencies and health care providers have a greater understanding of when and how to refer a child for a vision exam and community referral networks are strengthened.

OUTCOMES

- + More children in need receive eye exams
- + Improve understanding of the impact of vision loss
- + Improve awareness of services that will benefit their child
- + Establish ongoing partnership with Vision Educator
- + Increase social and emotional support
- + Understand benefits of low vision devices
- + Understand recommendations for visual intervention
- + Increase children's ability to accommodate for vision loss
- + Increase sense of empowerment
- + Improve sense of hope for child's future
- + Strengthen referral networks



INPUTS

Staff Compassion Families Low Vision Technology Board Community Partnerships Donors Foundation Grants Foundation In-Kind Services Grants In-Kind Equipment Partner Eye Doctors/Clinics Network of Vision Professionals Research Volunteers Data



Looking Ahead

Our focus in 2019 is to further advance access to pediatric eye care for underserved families in addition to providing vision education and support services that will improve lives and strengthen communities.

Strategic Priorities:

To increase public awareness of the importance of addressing visual impairment by providing outreach to create a more comprehensive and responsive referral network of community professionals.

To expand partnerships with pediatric eye doctors to increase the number of children receiving affordable high-quality eye care with education and support for their families.

To increase the visibility of Partners for Pediatric Vision as an organization recognized for high quality services to children with visual impairment and their families in Southern California.



Thank you again for everything. Karly is such a sweet, sweet baby and I feel like I've spent most of her life trying to convince other people who are supposed to be helping us protect and nourish her, that her learning matters, that intervention now can make a huge difference in her future. Thank you for the "Yes's" instead of "No's." We are just ecstatic to get an official start to her vision journey!"

Karly's Parents

Our Staff



Tori Schladen, M.A., Executive Director and Founder

Tori has over 30 years of experience that includes home-based direct early intervention services to children with visual impairment and 17 years at the Center for the Partially Sighted where she and Dr. Bill Takeshita established the model of Eye Doctor and Vision Educator. She has dedicated her career to improving the lives of children with visual impairment by developing best practices for intervention to benefit families, professionals and communities.



Diane Christian, Ph.D., Assistant Director

Diane has an impressive background combining experience working with children and adults with visual impairment and data analytics to highlight the success of PPV through direct service and statistics. Diane's influence on our organization includes grant writing, staff and program development, communications, outreach and direct service. She is a resolute and compassionate advocate for our children with visual impairment and their families.



Rosanna Sandoval, Bilingual Family Specialist

Rosanna has the ideal combination of hands-on infant and child development skills along with experience providing family support and parent education. Her non-judgmental and compassionate manner endears her to families and professionals alike. Rosanna's guidance meets the needs Spanish and English-speaking families have in getting their questions answered and understanding all that can be done to help their child thrive.



Samantha Gama, Bilingual Family Specialist

Samantha has over 10 years of experience teaching children with disabilities including vision loss of all ages in-home and in school and community settings. Our families benefit from the culturally sensitive and compassionate intervention Samantha provides. Her experience and training along with her passion and commitment to every child and family makes her intervention invaluable.



Bill Takeshita, O.D. F.A.A.O., F.C.O.V.D., Parent Educator

Dr. Bill performed his undergraduate studies at UCLA before receiving his doctorate degree with high honors from the Southern California College of Optometry. He is a pioneer in Pediatric Low Vision Optometry and his passion for helping children with visual impairment maximize the use of their vision has changed the lives of thousands of families. Dr. Bill lost his own vision in 2003 and shares his compelling expertise and inspiring perspective to encourage and empower our children and families.

Board of Directors

Lisa Detanna
Senior Vice President, Investments
Raymond James

Elva Tamashiro, M.A.
Executive Director
Institute for Families

Yolanda Moreno, M.A.
Owner and Director
Multiple Disability Services

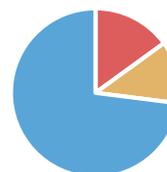
Sue Parker Strafaci, M.A.
Director (Retired), Child Development
Braille Institute

Financial Summary

Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2018

Beginning Cash Balance	\$112,163
Revenue	
Individual Contributions	\$31,659
Corporate Contributions	\$25,000
Foundation Grants	\$155,000
Total Revenue	\$211,659
Expenses:	\$157,769
Liabilities	\$0
Net Assets	\$166,053

Revenue



- Individual Contributions
- Corporate Contributions
- Foundation Grants

How to Support Our Mission

Donate

Donations of any size are essential to strengthen our vision education and support services. We also welcome in-kind donations of magnifiers, telescopes and electronic video magnifiers to give to our children in need.

<https://www.partnersforpediatricvision.org/donate>

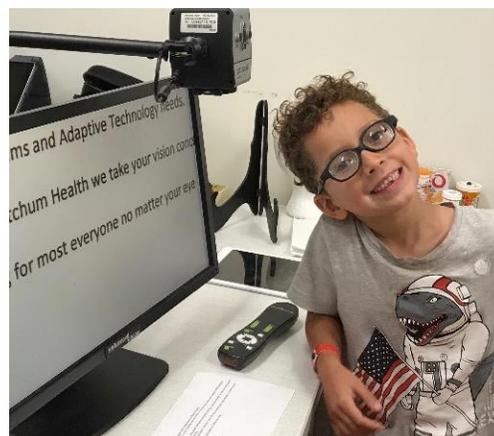
Volunteer

Join us at our child and family events to match your talents with rewarding opportunities to make a difference.

<https://www.partnersforpediatricvision.org/contact>

Community Engagement

Connect us to doctors, educators and professionals who can help us link children with visual impairment to vision care that improves outcomes. <https://www.partnersforpediatricvision.org/contact>



Thank You to Our Generous Supporters!

2018 Foundation, Corporate and Individual Donors

Visionary: \$10,000 - \$20,000

Arcadia Inc.
Diana & Mike Rapport

Patron: \$7,500 - \$9,999

Jerry McJenkin

Champion: \$5,000 - \$7,499

Carol & Jay Borzi
Carol & Jerry Marcil

Ally: \$1,000 - \$2,499

Laurie & John Bucher
Becky Chao & Eric Bucklin
Susan & Adam Carroll
Lisa Detanna
Lisa & Charles Noski
Roby Sayour
Barbra & Jeff Zukerman

Supporter: \$500 - \$999

Valerie & Chris Adlam
Darrin Freeman
Lissa Freese
Sue & Sam Strafaci

Friend: \$50 - \$499

Gary Asano
Karen & Steve Connolly
Nancy Dilger
Valencia Haynes
Rachel Heuser
Tracey Hornbuckle
Susan & Robert Jacobson
Paula Jones
Kelly & Bob Kasai
Liz & John Knight
Helaine & Steve Lopes
Lisa McJenkin

Karen & Rod Mitchell
Diane Moore
Yolanda Moreno
Jennifer & Peter Morgan
Dorothy & Bill Moynihan
Chris Nelms
Sue Oren
Lori & George Peterson
Pat Romeri
Andrea & Jim Sala
Micheline Sayour
Kathy Siegel
Anita & Mark Smith
Susan Spira
Jennifer Vonarb
Shari Wollman
Becky & Tony Yamada

Allergan Foundation

Arcadia Inc.

The Atlas Family Foundation

The Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation

Frontier Aluminum

Sunair Children's Foundation

Vistas for Children

Partners for Pediatric Vision,
a project of Community Partners
1000 N. Alameda St. #240, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(323) 612-8185
partnersforpediatricvision@gmail.com
www.partnersforpediatricvision.org