## Fiscal Year 2021: Investing in Vision and Eye Health



225 West Wacker Drive, Suite 400, Chicago, IL 60606 | www.PreventBlindness.org

## WHAT WILL THIS INVESTMENT DO?



Generate data through use of NHANES



Data informs allocation of limited resources to targeted interventions

Data identifies and targets need on federal, state, and local levels.

Provides a foundation for public awareness

**Coordinates action across partners** 



Reduces inequities in vision and eye health

With at least **\$5 million** appropriated to vision and eye health at the CDC in FY2021, the CDC can conduct long overdue and needed national surveillance on rates of diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and vision loss.

Data can also be collected to determine rates of vision and eye examinations and measurements of visual acuity, screening tests, and visual functioning assessment to better determine where gaps in access and patient education exist.

With this data, state and local public health departments and community leaders can respond to the needs of their populations with collaborative interventions and targeted strategies to improve vision and eye health at the state, local, or systems level.

## FY 2021: THE TIME IS NOW ----

While updated national prevalence estimates of our vision and eye health burden are needed, what we do know is that: *at least* **12 MILLION** Americans aged 40 and older (working age adults) have **impaired vision**.

1 MILLION Americans are BLIND 3 MILLION Americans have uncorrectable vision impairment.

8 MILLION live with uncorrected refractive error.

These are the most common, yet most preventable, reasons why people lose their sight:



Normal Vision



Diabetic Eye Disease



Glaucoma



Uncorrected Refractive Error



Age-Related Macular Degeneration

With \$5 million in renewed investments to the CDC's Vision and Eye Health program, we can begin to reverse these trends.