Nominee Statement: Jeff Todd

# Position: IAPB Group C Trustee

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| **Nominee Job Title** |
|   | President and CEO |
| **Nominee Organisation** |
|   | Prevent Blindness America |
| **Nominating IAPB member organisation** |
|  | Prevent Blindness America |
| **Represented by:** |
|   | Sandra Block |
| **Seconded by:** |
|   | Victoria Sheffield |
| **Seconding IAPB member organisation:** |
|   | Prevent Blindness America |
| **Seconding Statement** |
|   | I am pleased to second the nomination of Jeff Todd for a seat on IAPB’s Board of Trustees. I have known Jeff for 15 yrs and have found him to be extremely knowledgeable about eye health and the importance of advocacy to gain the resources to expand and improve services. He is collegial, open, and forthright. Jeff received a BS in Business (Marketing) from Indiana University in 1989, an MS in Communications from Butler University in 1995, a J.D. law degree from Indiana University School of Law in 1999, and an Executive Education Certificate-Leading Change in Nonprofits from Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management in 2021. He puts his education and skills to work at Prevent Blindness, a leading US organization focusing on building partnerships and advocating at the federal government level to prioritize eye health and funding to support eye care services for the American people, especially in underserved areas. An enabler, Jeff and his team help guide the US Congressional Vision Caucus to develop legislation important to our sector and to the US population which is diverse economically, ethnically, geographically, and financially. Prevent Blindness holds an extremely well attended Eye Health Summit each year in Washington, DC bringing together experts in ophthalmology, optometry, low vision and rehabilitation, research, ophthalmic epidemiology, ophthalmic economics, and the service sector. As Chair of VISION2020/USA for three years, Jeff helped build IAPB’s footprint in the highly competitive US space amongst hundreds of eye health organizations seeking attention. VISION2020/USA comprises both domestic and international NGOs, representatives from government agencies such as the US National Eye Institute and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Jeff is a person of integrity with strengths in governance, financial management, strategic planning, a legal frame works. He will provide support to staff, has experience with the media, and will represent IAPB well. Jeff’s unique experience and leadership skills are important to IAPB as we move toward 2030 bringing greater global attention to eye health through IAPB’s strategic plans, supporting the WHO’s World Report on Vision and its targets for 2030, and getting behind the UN Resolution on Eye Health. All these issues require strong advocacy at the global, national, and local level. |
| **Nominee Statement** |
|   | My name is Jeff Todd and I have worked in the public health realm throughout my 32-year career. For the past 18 years, I have had the honor of advancing vision and eye health through multiple roles at US-based Prevent Blindness. My first role was to expand the organization’s population health footprint, and three years ago I was invited to become its President and CEO. My career is based on a theme of continuous learning and growth, and I believe that I have the skills, experience, and confidence to contribute to the advancement of IAPB by serving on its Board of Trustees.Prevent Blindness’ mission is to obviously prevent blindness and to preserve sight across all age spectrums, throughout the United States. We do this 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 of vision problems and access to appropriate eye care. Prevent Blindness has been a member of IAPB for over 20 years and I have participated in multiple Global Assemblies and gatherings of the Council of Members. I have provided comments on multiple IAPB global planning initiatives from a U.S. perspective, and also served for three years as the Chair of Vision 2020 USA, a coalition of approximately 80 US-based organizations working to advance the Vision 2020 objectives.While our work at Prevent Blindness is focused domestically on advancing equitable access to eye care in the US, I have a very strong belief that public health advancements can best be achieved by working in partnership with others. It is through coalition-based efforts such as IAPB that we can improve eye care locally, nationally, and globally. This is why I would be honored to serve on the IAPB Board of Trustees. The core beliefs that I would bring to the work include a firm acknowledgement that while science and evidence must guide us, the work of public health really takes place at the intersection of science and politics. I believe I have helped broaden the scope and reach of Prevent Blindness by bringing people and organizations together to achieve what we could not achieve individually. I ask for your vote for the opportunity to help IAPB continue to do the same. |