**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE­­**

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**Foundation Fighting Blindness Announces National Virtual VisionWalk Day**

*This new virtual event on June 6th will raise awareness and fund research leading to   
treatments and cures for blindness caused by retinal diseases.*

**MILFORD, MICHIGAN - April 25, 2020 –** Thousands affected by vision loss – with the support of friends, family, and co-workers alike – rally virtually to fight blindness. Due to COVID-19, the Foundation Fighting Blindness has transformed all VisionWalk in-person events scheduled to take place through June 2020, into one nationwide virtual experience taking place on Saturday, June 6, 2020. This National Virtual VisionWalk Day is a new opportunity for communities to still come together, virtually, and celebrate the Foundation’s accomplishments of funding research leading to treatments and cures for blinding retinal diseases.

Register for free online at <https://give.fightingblindness.org/MichiganVisionWalk> to join the National Virtual VisionWalk along with others from across the country. Participants will celebrate National Virtual VisionWalk Day by taking a socially distanced walk or run through their neighborhood, walking at home on a treadmill, or finding unique and exciting ways to celebrate. Activities will be shared using #VisionWalkStrong on social media.

The Michigan VisionWalk is chaired by Angie Diuble and April Topel and youth chaired by Abby Diuble, Lilly Diuble, and Taylor Wesley. View a message from Walk Co-Chair Angie Diuble at: <https://youtu.be/BxxCpDY_edk>. View a message from Youth Co-Chairs Lilly and Abby Diuble at: <https://youtu.be/PIlLLJfPd7k>.

Throughout its 15-year history and through the generosity of more than 200,000 walkers, donors, and corporate sponsors, VisionWalk has raised more than $55 million. These funds have enabled the Foundation to continue advancing its important mission of moving vision-restoring treatments from the laboratory to the patients who need them. Vision science is making great strides — today more than 38 potential treatments are in clinical trials — but there is still more work to do.

Together, we step closer to fighting blindness.

For more information, contact Kelly Kruse, Events Manager, [KKruse@FightingBlindness.org](mailto:KKruse@FightingBlindness.org), (847) 549-1493.

**About the Foundation Fighting Blindness**

Established in 1971, the Foundation Fighting Blindness is the world’s leading private funding source for retinal degenerative disease research. The Foundation has raised more than $760 million toward its mission of accelerating research for preventing, treating, and curing blindness caused by the entire spectrum of retinal degenerative diseases including: retinitis pigmentosa, age-related macular degeneration, Usher syndrome, and Stargardt disease. Visit FightingBlindness.org for more information.

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