

## NAEVR Joins the Vision Community in Requesting Vision Objectives in Healthy People 2020

At a May 28 Stakeholders Meeting held in Bethesda, Maryland, to solicit input on the objectives within Healthy People 2020, NAEVR's James Jorkasky presented a statement of support for the inclusion of vision, generally, and senior vision, specifically. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Healthy People identifies the most preventable threats to health and establishes national goals to reduce those threats. For the first time, Healthy People 2010 included vision objectives, and several vision community representatives attended the National-Capital area meeting to urge vision's continued inclusion in Healthy People 2020. In addition to public comment at the meeting, DHHS is also seeking written comments.

NAEVR's public comments focused on senior vision health, as 2020 is in the middle of the tidal wave of 78 million Baby Boomers who will be turning 65 between the years 2010 and 2028. NAEVR was joined in providing public comments by representatives of the American Optometric Association and the American Foundation for the Blind, with the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the Vision Council of America also in attendance and providing support. The vision community was a significant presence at this meeting, which drew participation from patient and advocacy groups representing a wide spectrum of diseases.



NAEVR's James Jorkasky comments on the importance of senior vision health



Norm Lanphear (American Academy of Ophthalmology) and representatives from the American Optometric Association, including Kelly Hipp, Timothy Wingert, O.D., (University of Missouri St. Louis College of Optometry), and Jeffrey Weaver, O.D., who provided public comment



NAEVR has posted on its Web site home page a link to *Your Candidates, Your Health*, a Web site developed by Research!America to enable voters to read more about candidates' positions on various health-related issues, including NIH funding.

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