

March 28, 2022

Governance Committee  
Eye Bank Association of America  
1101 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 400  
Washington DC, 20036

Dear Governance Committee,

It is my privilege to support Esther Baker's nomination for the EBAA Board of Directors. Esther is relatively new to eye banking and the EBAA, but she brings significant experience to our field. I got to know her well after she took on the role of Executive Director at Iowa Lions Eye Bank. Her desire to be successful in her new role as ED took her on a learning journey that created a great deal of institutional and personal knowledge exchange. I was impressed with her business savvy, earnest desire to contribute to our collective mission, and willingness to share her knowledge.

The EBAA Board is a body that will help shape the direction of the organization and its service to member eye banks. Typically, people who are "seasoned" eye banking professionals make up our Board. And truly, I would not want to tip the scales too much to those without many years of eye banking. That said, I do find Esther's relative newcomer status to be a huge benefit to the Association. So often the best ideas come from a fresh perspective unanchored to the biases that we learn from experience. This creates a bit of a paradox that Esther is uniquely qualified by her lack of direct experience in eye banking.

Esther has many years of non-profit management as well as communications. I am confident she can bring this education and experience to the EBAA Board for the benefit of all members and the communities we serve. She has my strong recommendation.

Sincerely,



Chris Stoeger  
Chief Executive Officer