



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A NATIONAL CELEBRATION HONORS AMERICA'S ORGAN, EYE AND TISSUE DONORS

THE FLAGS ACROSS AMERICA INITIATIVE IS TAKING PLACE THIS MONTH

Durham, NC – In 2009, Donate Life America initiated the Flags Across America program during National Donate Life Month as a symbol to the American public of how many people have been touched by donation and to call attention to the need for more people to designate themselves as donors.

More than 5,000 Donate Life flags adorned the skies in 39 states, Washington DC, and Puerto Rico. Flags were flown at donor hospitals, transplant centers, organ procurement organizations, and motor vehicle departments.

The goal of Flags Across America 2010 is to double that number. To help reach that goal, Carolina Donor Services invites all donor families, recipients, patients waiting and those who support organ, eye and tissue donation to join in this nationwide display of unity and hope.

To participate in Flags Across America 2010, you can do one of the following:

- Fly a flag at your home
- If you are unable to fly a flag, use it as a banner
- Place garden flags around your home or in common areas of your neighborhood
- Fly a Donate Life car flag on your vehicle
- Encourage your workplace, local churches, businesses, and government buildings to fly a Donate Life flag and display Donate Life information in key areas
- Use the electronic Donate Life Flag in your email signature or social media sites such as Facebook or MySpace

Raising awareness of donation in the community can save and enhance lives. A single organ donor can save up to eight lives and a tissue donor can enhance the lives of over 50 people. "Getting the word out about donation can have incredibly positive results," said Ashley Davis, Carolina Donor Services' Marketing and Events Coordinator.

There are currently over 106,000 Americans awaiting a life saving organ transplant. One organ, eye and tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of over 60 people. On average, 18 patients die every day in the US waiting for a donated organ.

For more information on how to purchase a Donate Life flag, visit <http://www.donatelife.net/faa/faa.php>.

About Carolina Donor Services

Carolina Donor Services is the federally-designated, non-profit organ and tissue donation organization serving 6.1 million people in 78 counties of North Carolina and Danville, Virginia. Carolina Donor Services maximizes the passing of the heroic gift of life from one human being to another through organ and tissue donation. In North Carolina, over 3,000 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant, and nationally, over 106,000 people are on the organ waiting list. For more information, visit www.carolinadonorservices.org; call 1-800-200-2672 or write 3621 Lyckan Parkway, Durham, NC 27707.

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