



FOR RELEASE:
November 6, 2009

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Faith communities recognize National Donor Sabbath with Michigan Eye-Bank Donate Life Stations

ANN ARBOR – Every major religion in the United States accepts eye, organ and tissue donation as a good and charitable thing, but not everybody knows that.

To help people better understand where their religion stands on the issue of donation, the transplant community teams up with the religious community every year for National Donor Sabbath. This year, National Donor Sabbath will be recognized **November 13-15**.

On Sunday, November 15, Michigan Eye-Bank volunteers will be setting up Donate Life Stations at several churches around the state, including Troy Faith Lutheran Church in Troy and Pilgrim Congregation United Church of Christ in Lansing. Each Station features a laptop computer with a wireless Internet card, enabling Eye-Bank representatives to sign people up on the Donor Registry via the Internet. Those who sign up will receive their red "DONOR" heart stickers from the Secretary of State in the mail.

To add a person's name to the Donor Registry, all that is needed are the person's full name, driver's license or State ID number and birth date.

The new Michigan Eye-Bank Donate Life Stations are part of the second phase of the Eye-Bank's ***I Joined!*** campaign, a grassroots initiative to get the word out about the importance of joining the state's Donor Registry.

For more information about the ***I Joined!*** campaign, or to sign up on the Michigan Organ Donor Registry, visit www.IJoined.org.

The Michigan Eye-Bank, a division of Midwest Eye-Banks, is a charitable, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration of sight. It recovers, evaluates and distributes human eye tissue for transplantation. It also supports research into the causes and cures of blinding eye conditions, promotes donation awareness through public and professional education, and provides humanitarian aid to people in need of corneal transplantation throughout the world. For more information, visit the Michigan Eye-Bank online at www.michiganeyebank.org or call (800) 247-7250.

