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Cornea recipient organizes “Ride-a-Thon” for the Michigan Eye-Bank

ST. CLAIR SHORES – After undergoing sight-restoring cornea transplants, Gary Abud wanted to give back to the organization that made his gift of sight possible. Drawing upon his own passion for indoor cycling, Abud, a Spinning instructor, will host a Ride-a-Thon for the Michigan Eye-Bank from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 5.

“After years of struggling with my vision, I cannot begin to describe how my transplants have changed my life,” says Abud, who was diagnosed with keratoconus – a degenerative cornea disease – at age 10. “By raising money for the Eye-Bank, I can help them continue in their mission of sight restoration.”

The Ride-a-Thon will be held at Next Level Health and Fitness, 21431 Greater Mack Avenue, in St. Clair Shores. Each \$25 entry fee includes cycling, lunch and a T-shirt, and all proceeds benefit the Michigan Eye-Bank. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information, contact Michigan Eye-Bank Community Engagement Associate Alex Teska at (734) 887-2675, or ateska@michiganeyebank.org. Online registration is available by visiting the Michigan Eye-Bank Web site, www.michiganeyebank.org.

The Michigan Eye-Bank 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.

