

News Release

For Immediate Release



Contact: _____, President
Lions Club

Phone: _____

Lions Club Campaign Works to Save and Improve Lives

_____, 2008 (_____, Minn.) – One hundred thousand Americans are in need of eye, organ, and tissue donations right now. Each day, 100 people are added to the national transplant waiting list, and there are too few corneas to restore the sight of all those who are in need of transplants. One person can make a difference, and that is why Lions clubs throughout Minnesota have joined the effort to increase the number of legally registered donors.

Champions of the blind and sight-impaired for more than 80 years, Lions are encouraging people to support eye, organ, and tissue donation during their *Signatures for Sight* campaign. The campaign goal is to increase the number of registered donors on Minnesota’s online donation registry www.DonateLifeMN.org. The Lions campaign supports national efforts to bring the number of registered donors in the United States to 100 million.

“Lives are saved or dramatically improved when people say “yes” to donation by legally registering themselves as donors,” says _____, Lions Club president. “We hope more people will become registered donors and share their donation decision with family members.”

Persons are legally registered as donors if they add “donor” to a driver’s license or state identification card or if they sign up through the Minnesota online donation registry www.DonateLifeMN.org. Donation wishes may also be indicated through other written forms, such as a health care directive.

A recent University of Minnesota study found that *97 percent* of Minnesotans supported organ and tissue donation, yet data from the Department of Public Safety reveals that only 43 percent of Minnesotans have donor marked on their licenses. The Lions hope to close the gap between those who support donation and those who commit their support to writing.

If you do not have “donor” on your license and would like to legally document your wishes, contact your local Lions club to participate in their *Signatures for Sight* campaign.