



October 2014

Jesse White
Secretary of State &
State Librarian

Gwendolyn Brooks Building
300 South Second Street
Springfield, Illinois 62701
800-665-5576
www.ilsos.gov

Dear Library Colleague:

As head of the state's Organ/Tissue Donor Program, I believe in the lifesaving potential of organ/tissue donation. I ask you to please review the attached materials and consider holding an organ/tissue donor registration drive at your library.

In Illinois, more than 5.6 million people are registered as organ/tissue donors, yet there are 5,000 people waiting for transplants. Each year, about 300 people die waiting for their gift of life. One person can save or improve the quality of life for up to 25 individuals. I encourage everyone to register for this lifesaving program by visiting LifeGoesOn.com.

Last April during Donate Life Month, many Illinois public libraries held organ/tissue donor registration drives. The success of those drives shows that libraries have been an important partner in expanding and strengthening the organ/tissue donor program. I am grateful for their outreach efforts and hope to continue this initiative in the future.

Take a look at the attached materials and sign up to host an organ/tissue donor registration drive at your library. I appreciate your cooperation in this important, lifesaving effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

Jesse White
Secretary of State
State Librarian





TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL ILLINOIS LIBRARY ORGAN/TISSUE DONOR REGISTRATION DRIVE

Below are suggestions to help you prepare for your organ/tissue donor registration drive at your library:

1. **Submit donor drive requests at least 3-4 weeks in advance of the drive.** This will give Secretary of State Organ/Tissue Donor Program staff time to schedule the drive and ensure the timely arrival of your requested materials. It will also give you ample time to advertise with local media and post notices in high traffic areas. Send drive requests to lhager@ilsos.net.
2. **Arrange for a local person who has been affected by donation or transplantation to speak or visit during the drive.** Many people in your community will probably not have met a transplant recipient. Recipients can provide compelling testimonials about this lifesaving program at your event.
3. **Display books about donation.** The Organ/Tissue Donor Program staff (217-782-6258, or lhager@ilsos.net) can provide you with a bibliography of titles for all ages.
4. **Offer flyers promoting the donor drive at check-out to remind patrons about the upcoming drive.** Flyers also can be provided to local businesses and community organizations.
5. **Hold the donor drive during your library's peak hours in order to reach the most people.**
6. **Although all times of the year are beneficial and encouraged for hosting your library's drive, it can be even more effective to hold donor drives during months that highlight organ/tissue donation.** April is National Donate Life Month. The first week of August is National Minority Donor Awareness Week. National Donor Sabbath is celebrated the weekend two weeks prior to Thanksgiving. March is National Eye Month, which is a good time to create awareness about the need for donated corneas.
7. **Incorporate the organ/tissue donor drive with a blood drive or bone marrow drive.** Contact your local blood and bone marrow centers: Bone Marrow — Be the Match **800-MARROW2 (800-627-7692)**; America's Blood Centers — **888-USBLOOD (888-872-5663)**; American Red Cross — **800-REDCROSS (800-733-2767)**.

For more information, call 800-210-2106 or visit LifeGoesOn.com.



Life LifeGoesOn.com
Goes On
Be an organ/tissue donor

Office of the Illinois Secretary of State

To strengthen the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry through outreach and registration initiatives.

ILLINOIS LIBRARY ORGAN/TISSUE DONOR DRIVE INTEREST INDICATOR and MATERIALS REQUEST FORM

☐ Yes! My library would like to schedule an onsite Donor Drive.

Name of Library: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Donor Drive Date possibilities for my library:

First Choice _____ Second Choice _____ Third Choice _____

Organ/Tissue Donor Program staff will contact the person listed above to confirm a date for your library's Donor Drive.

Materials Requested:

These materials can be provided to your library regardless of whether a Donor Drive is planned.

☐ Brochures / Quantity: _____

☐ Pens / Quantity: _____

☐ Advertising Posters / Quantity: _____

Approximate Number of Visitors Expected: _____

Please provide additional information regarding the event to help Organ/Tissue Donor Program staff prepare for the drive:

Is the event in conjunction with another special event? If so, what event?

Do you know a local organ/tissue recipient or donor family member that could attend? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like a press release template for your local newspaper? ☐ Yes ☐ No

When completed, please email, fax or mail to:

Illinois Secretary of State
Organ/Tissue Donor Program
Room 451 Howlett
Springfield, IL 62756
Email: lhager@ilsos.net
FAX: 217-782-9448

For more information, call 800-210-2106 or visit LifeGoesOn.com.