April is "Donate Life Month" in New Bedford

Last year the lives of more than 240 New Englanders were saved because individuals registered as organ donors on their state driver's license or online through the Donate Life New England registry. In addition, the lives of 25,000 in this region were enhanced by tissue donations from registered tissue donors. Registering as a donor can make a very real



difference in the life of someone desperately in need of a transplant. Currently, over 113,700 Americans await a life saving organ transplant that may not come in time.

On Wednesday, April 18th at 10:00 AM at New Bedford City Hall on 133 William Street, Mayor Jon Mitchell will present a Proclamation to representatives from New England Organ Bank proclaiming April is Donate Life Month in the City of New Bedford. April is National Donate Life Month and it is an opportunity to continue to educate the public, celebrate the lives saved and enhanced through donation and honor the donors who made the ultimate gift.

Mayor Mitchell said he looks forward to the ceremony and the opportunity to acknowledge the New England Organ Bank efforts to increase public awareness and to acknowledge the partnership between the RMV and Donate Life.

Matt Boger, State Relations for New England Organ Bank said, "Statistics show that 99.8% of all Massachusetts residents who designate themselves as an organ and tissue donor do so at the RMV. They play a very important party in the donation process."

Mike Lenza, liver recipient and New England Organ Bank RMV Ambassador for Lowell says "It's very inspiring to have the support of Mayor Mitchell for Donate Life Month. We hope the people of New Bedford decide to register today and tell their family and friends to do the same."

About New England Organ Bank

New England Organ Bank is the federally-designated, non-profit procurement organization responsible for the surgical recovery of organs and tissues for transplant throughout the New England region.

About Donate Life New England

Donate Life New England is a joint project of two federally designated organ procurement organizations that serve New England — LifeChoice Donor Services and New England Organ Bank. They have come together to create a fast and easy way for citizens of New England to register as organ and tissue donors in a secure and confidential manner. For more information, visit www.donatelifenewengland.org.