



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

03/19/2024

## RESOLUTION 66 - 2024

**Introduced by Health and Human Services: Supervisors Edwards, Grasso, Lant, Murray, Ostrander, Richardson and Thompson**

### **PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024 AS "DONATE LIFE MONTH" IN SARATOGA COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, through Saratoga County's membership with the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) and New York State Association of County Clerks (NYSACC) New York's Counties have come together to collectively support Donate Life Month in New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, nationally, one person is added to the organ transplant waiting list every eight minutes, more than 100,000 men, women and children are awaiting organ transplants and 17 people die each day because the organ they need is not donated in time; and

**WHEREAS**, organ, tissue, marrow and blood donation are life-giving acts recognized worldwide as expressions of compassion to those in need; and

**WHEREAS**, a single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives; an eye and tissue donation can save and heal the lives of up to 75 others; and a single blood donation can help three people in need; and

**WHEREAS**, no one is too old or too sick to register with the NYS Donate Life Registry. Anyone 16 years of age or older can register; and

**WHEREAS**, in New York State there are approximately 8,000 people waiting for an organ transplant; with more than 1,000 New Yorkers having been waiting more than five years for an organ transplant; and an estimated 400 New Yorkers dying every year while waiting for an organ transplant; and

**WHEREAS**, 3,580 transplants were performed in New York State in 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, New York State's County governments play a key role in raising awareness of the need for organ and tissue donation through the interactions County officials have with the public with regard to this subject through local DMV offices, local boards of elections, departments of health, naturalization ceremonies and veterans' programs; and

**WHEREAS**, such interactions by Saratoga County officials with the public provide opportunities for the provision of information on how individuals can help their fellow New Yorkers by signing up as organ and tissue donors; and

**WHEREAS**, Counties across New York State are proclaiming the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month", and engaging in various activities designed to promote an increase in the number of registered organ and tissue donations; and

**WHEREAS**, one activity that Donate Life New York State has encouraged organizations to undertake is to have employees wear Donate Life's colors on the annual "Blue and Green Day" in order to raise awareness of the need for organ and tissue donations; and

**WHEREAS**, our Health and Human Services Committee and the Saratoga County Clerk's Office, through its Department of Motor Vehicles, wish to promote the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month" in Saratoga County; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of April 2024 as "Donate Life Month" in Saratoga County, and encourages those Saratoga County departments and agencies involved in providing information on organ and tissue donations or in registering organ and tissue donors to engage in activities throughout the month to increase the number of organ and tissue donors and promote awareness of the need for organ and tissue donations in Saratoga County; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that Saratoga County employees shall be encouraged to wear blue and green, the official colors of Donate Life New York State, on the organization's "Blue and Green Day", which is April 12, 2024 as a means to raise awareness of the need for organ and tissue donors in Saratoga County; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: No Budget Impact.

March 19, 2024 Regular Meeting

Motion to Adopt: Supervisor Grasso

Second: Supervisor K. Veitch

AYES (193,508): Eric Connolly (11831), Joseph Grasso (4328), Philip C. Barrett (19014.5), Angela Thompson (19014.5), C. Eric Butler (6500), Diana Edwards (819), Jean Raymond (1333), James D. Arnold (3525), Kevin Veitch (8004), Arthur M. Wright (1976), Cynthia Young (17130), Thomas Richardson (5163), Scott Ostrander (18800), Jesse Fish (16202), Ian Murray (5808), Michele Madigan (14245.5), Matthew E. Veitch (14245.5), David Ball (8208), John Lant (17361)

NOES (0):

ABSENT (42,001): Kevin Tollisen (25662), Willard H. Peck (5242), Sandra Winney (2075), Edward D. Kinowski (9022)