



Orange County Government
Office of the County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus
NEWS RELEASE

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**Orange County DMV encourages lifesaving donations during April's
Donate Life Month**

*Month-long observance raises awareness of the need for organ, eye and tissue
donation*

Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus and County Clerk Annie Rabbitt announced that the County's Department of Motor Vehicles is teaming up with the New York Alliance for Donation (NYAD) during Donate Life Month to increase enrollment in the New York State Donate Life Registry. Donate Life Month is a national observance which raises awareness of the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation.

Nearly 10,000 New Yorkers are currently waiting for transplants.

“Organ donation saves lives and we are proud to be partnering with the New York Alliance for Donation on this important initiative,” Rabbitt said. “This event will help to educate Orange County residents on how they can make a huge impact on other people's lives by becoming an organ donor. I'm proud that our DMV staff has been so enthusiastic about raising awareness about promoting this important and worthwhile program.”

During April, the staff at Orange County's DMV offices in Middletown, Newburgh and Port Jervis encourage residents to learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation and the impact it has on many lives. The offices will feature promotional items to urge visitors to make a difference and give the gift of life by

registering as donors. Enrolling in the Donate Life Registry ensures that an individual's wishes about donation will be known at the time of his or her death.

“Organ donation saves lives and I appreciate that County Clerk Rabbitt and her staff are raising awareness about this important issue,” Neuhaus said. “You can really make a difference by enrolling in the organ donor registry and it's simple to do. You can register at DMV when you obtain or renew a driver's license, or at the Board of Elections office when you register to vote.”

New Yorkers age 16 and older can enroll at their local DMV offices by signing the organ donor consent certification. This can be found on the forms used to apply or renew a driver license or non-driver identification card. When you enroll using this method, a symbol of a red heart and the words “Organ Donor” will be printed on the front of your driver license or non-driver identification card at no extra cost.

New Yorkers can also enroll in the Donate Life Registry electronically through the MyDMV website: dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/mydmv if they have a driver license or non-driver identification card. This method of enrollment will not result in a new driver license or non-driver identification card with a red heart symbol and the words “Organ Donor.”

New Yorkers also have the unique opportunity to enroll in the New York State Donate Life registry through the voter registration form.

The New York Alliance for Donation (NYAD) is a not-for-profit with a mission to increase organ, eye and tissue donation in New York state through collaborative advocacy, education, promotion and research. Its goal is to ensure a transplant for every New Yorker in need.

For more information, contact Justin Rodriguez, Assistant to the County Executive for Communications and Media Relations at 845.291.3255 or jrodriguez@orangecountygov.com.

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Matt Dietz, Dora McGuire, Administrative Clerk Sherri Rufer, Supervisor Angela Clark, Director Karen Crown, Supervisor Lisa Greaves, Deputy County Clerk Marie Steets, Deputy County Clerk Kelly Eskew, Kathleen Collett, Natalie Melendez, Elizabeth Ricci at Bridget Wright Orange County DMV office in Middletown. The County's Department of Motor Vehicles is teaming up with the New York Alliance for Donation (NYAD) during April's Donate Life Month to increase enrollment in the New York State Donate Life Registry.