



## MAYOR GINA-LOUISE SCIARRA

City of Northampton  
Office of the Mayor

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For Immediate Release: April 18, 2024

### Mayor Sciarra Proclaims April as Donate Life Month in Northampton; Joins Organ Recipients & Donor Families

Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. - City Hall

1,401 lives were saved in New England by organ donation in 2023

NORTHAMPTON – In recognition of the eclipse on April 8, this year’s theme for April as Donate Life Month is “Total Eclipse of the Heart ~ Have a Heart and Get a Heart.” Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra, State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa, Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) leadership, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), and New England Donor Services join individuals touched by organ donation to celebrate national and state Donate Life Month. They are asking people to “Have a Heart and Get a Heart” by registering as a donor at the RMV when getting or renewing a driver’s license, Real ID, or identification card.

**What:** “Total Eclipse of the Heart ~ Have a Heart and Get a Heart” - April Donate Life Month

**Who:** Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra  
State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa  
MA RMV Leadership  
MA DPH  
Scott and Kim Meyer (kidney recipients – met at dialysis and then married)  
Bob Wood (liver recipient)  
Elizabeth Gorman (double lung recipient)  
Individuals touched by organ donation  
New England Donor Services

**Where:** Northampton City Hall

**When:** Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.

The vast majority of individuals in Massachusetts who register as organ and tissue donors do so at the state RMV. The Massachusetts DPH has created a campaign to educate people about organ donation and encourage them to register as a donor. To register to be a donor and to see DPH campaign materials, visit [mass.gov/OrganDonor](https://mass.gov/OrganDonor).

This year's Donate Life Month comes as New England Donor Services (NEDS) has achieved a record number of life-saving deceased donor organ donations and transplants in its New England service area for a third consecutive year. In 2023, 549 deceased donors donated organs resulting in 1,401 life-saving transplants. This record level of clinical activity places NEDS among the nation's top four organ procurement organizations by donor volume. Since 2020, NEDS has increased the annual number of organ donors by 52 percent.

New England Donor Services represents the federally-designated, non-profit Organ Procurement Organizations (OPO) responsible for the surgical recovery of organs and tissues for transplant in Maine and throughout the New England region.

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