

Media Release: 18 August 2008

Organ Donation: The Community Message

A Free one day seminar about organ and tissue donation

LifeGift, part of the Red Cross Blood Service, which provides organ donor services to NSW/ACT will hold a Free One Day Seminar called Organ Donation: The Community Message.

The seminar, to be held on Wednesday 22nd October 2008 will inform and update community groups or individuals involved in or interested in helping to promote organ and tissue donation.

It will also provide them with an excellent opportunity to have questions answered by experts in the field.

Manager of LifeGift, Patricia Wills said the Seminar will focus on the Organ and Tissue Donation process, from registration to family follow up after donation.

“Organ Donation is touching the lives of more and more people in our community yet few know very little of what happens and why organ donation is so important.

“The seminar will include keynote speakers from the Organ Donation and Transplantation sector who will cover topics including Registration, when donation is possible, the donation process, support for donor families, future directions and community and media messages,” Patricia Wills said.

While LifeGift will provide a light lunch and morning and afternoon tea, it is important to register and ensure a place at the seminar by calling 02. 92294003 or email kgmckay@arcbs.redcross.org.au by Friday 10th October 2008.

What: A free One Day Seminar for Community Groups and those involved or interested in Organ and Tissue Donation

Date: Wednesday 22nd October 2008

Time: 9am start until 5pm

Venue: Level 5 Conference Rooms
Red Cross House
153 Clarence Street
Sydney 2000

RSVP call 02.92294003 or email mgriffiths@arcbs.redcross.org.au by Friday 10th October 2008.

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For further information and to organise an interview please contact Kerry McKay, Senior Communications Advisor LifeGift nsw/act on 9229 4002 or 0418 205 992.

LifeGift provides organ donation services and is part of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service. Donor Coordinators (who are highly skilled Registered Nurses) attend hospitals where donors have been cared for after their death. They ensure all legal, procedural and ethical requirements are fulfilled and that the deceased donor and the donor family are always treated with dignity and respect. LifeGift also provides bereavement services to all organ donor families long after the death of a loved one. LifeGift also offers education about the life saving benefits of organ donation for transplantation.