



National Donate Life Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 men, women, and children await lifesaving or life-enhancing organ transplants, of which nearly 3,000 reside in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, 48,149 a record number of transplants, occurred in the calendar year 2024 thanks to the generosity of 24,020 deceased and living donors, of which 1,460 transplant patients and 650 deceased and living donors, also a record number, were from Georgia; and

WHEREAS, more than 2.5 million people throughout the country and in Georgia benefit annually from tissue transplantation thanks to thousands of tissue donors; and

WHEREAS, the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation remains critical as a new patient is added to the national waiting list for an organ transplant every 8 minutes and millions more could experience improved quality of life through tissue transplantation; and

WHEREAS, the critical donor shortage remains a public health crisis as an average of 16 people die daily due to the lack of available organs; and

WHEREAS, organ, eye, and tissue donation can provide families with the comfort of knowing the gift of donated organs and tissue endows another person with renewed hope for a healthy life; and

WHEREAS, donating life through organ, eye, and tissue donation is the ultimate act of generosity and kindness we Habersham County citizens can perform; and

WHEREAS, nearly than 3.8 million Georgians have already registered their decision to give the Gift of Life at www.donatelifegeorgia.org, when getting or renewing their driver license or state identification card at a driver license office, or when getting a hunting or fishing license through the Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, LifeLink® of Georgia, the non-profit organization dedicated to the recovery of organs and tissue for transplantation therapy in Georgia, with a vision to maximize the gift of life while giving hope to donor families and transplant patients and mission to honor donors and save lives through organ and tissue donation; and

WHEREAS, **County** supports the life-saving mission of LifeLink® of Georgia; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Habersham County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 2025 as **DONATE LIFE MONTH** in Habersham County, to honor all those who made the decision to give the gift of life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ, eye and tissue donation, to encourage all residents to take action and sign up on Georgia's Donor Registry at www.donatelifegeorgia.org, to discuss the miracle of transplantation as a family, and to make a family commitment to organ, eye, and tissue donation

On This 17th Day of April 2025

By: _____
Bruce Harkness, Vice Chairman

Attest: _____
Brandalin Carnes, County Clerk