**National Donor Sabbath**

**About Donor Sabbath**

National Donor Sabbath is part of a donation initiative launched by the United States Department of Health and Human Services in 1997. Observed two weekends before Thanksgiving, the three-day national observance seeks to include the days of worship of major religions practiced in the United States.

During National Donor Sabbath, donation and transplant professionals join faith communities to focus on the lifesaving and healing gifts passed to others through organ, eye and tissue donation. Faith leaders, donor families, and transplant recipients participate in services and programs to increase awareness of donation and transplantation.

**Faith, Donation and Transplantation**

All mayor religions in the support organ and tissue donation or support the individual choices of its members. Donation is viewed by most religions as an act of compassion and generosity.

We encourage you to talk with your leaders if you have any specific questions about your religion’s point of view on organ and tissue donation. Remember, saying yes to organ, eye and tissue donations saves lives.

**How you can observe National Donor Sabbath**

National Donor Sabbath is often celebrated in many houses of worship with a transplant recipient sharing a personal story of receiving “a second chance at life.” Here are some other ways in which you can celebrate National Donor Sabbath in your congregation:

* Talk with your friends, family, and congregation about living and deceased donation.
* Register as an organ, eye and tissue donor, and discuss your decision with your loved ones
* Honor living and deceased donors according to your religion’s traditions and practices.
* Host a donor designation station at your congregation
* Include bulletin inserts in your church bulletin or a story in the newsletter
* Place posters in your church and other churches in your community

**About Donor Alliance**

Donor Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Register to be an organ & tissue donor and share your decision with your loved ones. To learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation visit DonateLifeColorado.org.

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