

# Life Connection of Ohio

May 17, 2007

Dear Scoutmaster,

In planning your Boy Scout agenda for 2008, please consider adding a lesson about the importance of **organ and tissue donation**.

Did you know that every Ohioan, **including high school-aged students**, is asked to declare their decision to donate organs and tissues whenever they obtain or renew a driver's license or State I.D.? In Ohio, these decisions are recorded in the Ohio Donor Registry. By devoting one meeting, the young men will learn the facts about donation, which will enable them to make informed decisions and share the information with their parent or guardians.

**Life Connection of Ohio**, the local organ procurement organization, incorporates visual and hands-on learning with children to reinforce the life-saving message of donation. During the 2005-2006 school year, Life Connection presented to more than 20,000 junior high and high school students throughout our service area of northwest and west central Ohio. **I would appreciate the opportunity to speak to your pack. I am happy to accommodate any class size or time constraint, and I will alter my program to fit your needs.**

**Life Connection of Ohio** is designated by the federal government to coordinate organ donation for transplantation or research in northwest and west central Ohio. Our youth education campaign was created to promote organ donation awareness and to help young people make well-informed decisions. The reoccurring theme throughout this campaign stresses the importance of family discussion regarding organ and tissue donation.

Currently, there are **more than 95,000 people waiting for life-saving organ transplants** in the United States, and this number is growing rapidly. Every 12 minutes, another person is added to the national transplant waiting list. Because there are not enough organ donors, 18 people on this massive list die every day waiting for life-saving transplants. The good news is that **a single donor has the potential to save up to eight lives through organ donation and can enhance the quality of life for more than 50 people through tissue donation!**

For your convenience, I have enclosed a program request form. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a program, please feel free to call me at (800) 535-9206 or (937) 223-8223. For a faster response, you can also reach me by e-mail at [jbetz@lcodro.org](mailto:jbetz@lcodro.org).

Sincerely,

Julie C. Betz  
Community Relations Associate  
Life Connection of Ohio – Dayton Regional Office

Toledo Regional Office  
3661 Briarfield Blvd., Suite 105  
Maumee, OH 43537-9102  
419.893.1618 • 800.262.5443 • Fax 419.893.1827

  
A Donate Life Organization  
[www.lifeconnectionofohio.org](http://www.lifeconnectionofohio.org)

Dayton Regional Office  
40 Wyoming Street  
Dayton, OH 45409-2721  
937.223.8223 • 800.535.9206 • Fax 937.223.8955

# Life Connection of Ohio

Dear Scoutmaster,

In planning your Boy Scout agenda for 2008, please consider adding the Donor Awareness Patch to learn about the importance of **organ and tissue donation**.

The following information should help you in understanding the requirements for earning a "Donor Awareness" patch from Boy Scouts of America.

**In order to earn a "Donor Awareness" patch, each scout will:**

- Be educated about organ and tissue donation by a Life Connection of Ohio Educator;
- Share their new knowledge by educating family members and friends by discussing organ and tissue donation;
- Distribute at least 3 Ohio Donor Registry brochures to those with whom they discuss the option of donation.

**To enable your scouts to earn a "Donor Awareness" patch, you must:**

- Contact Life Connection of Ohio; Community Relations Dept. to schedule a presentation. We will provide, free of charge, the Ohio Donor Registry brochures, educational materials and patches upon completion of the program.

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Scouts completing the requirements: \_\_\_\_\_ (Please indicate their names on back)

Scoutmaster: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form to Life Connection of Ohio  
Attention: Community Relations Dept.  
40 Wyoming St.  
Dayton, OH 45409

The patches will be sent to your mailing address for presentation to your scouts. Please allow 1-2 weeks for delivery. If you have any questions, please contact me at [JBetz@lcoodro.org](mailto:JBetz@lcoodro.org). Thank you for your participation in this exciting project!

Sincerely,  
Julie C. Betz

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