

# the LIVING BANK

continuous flow of life-giving transplants

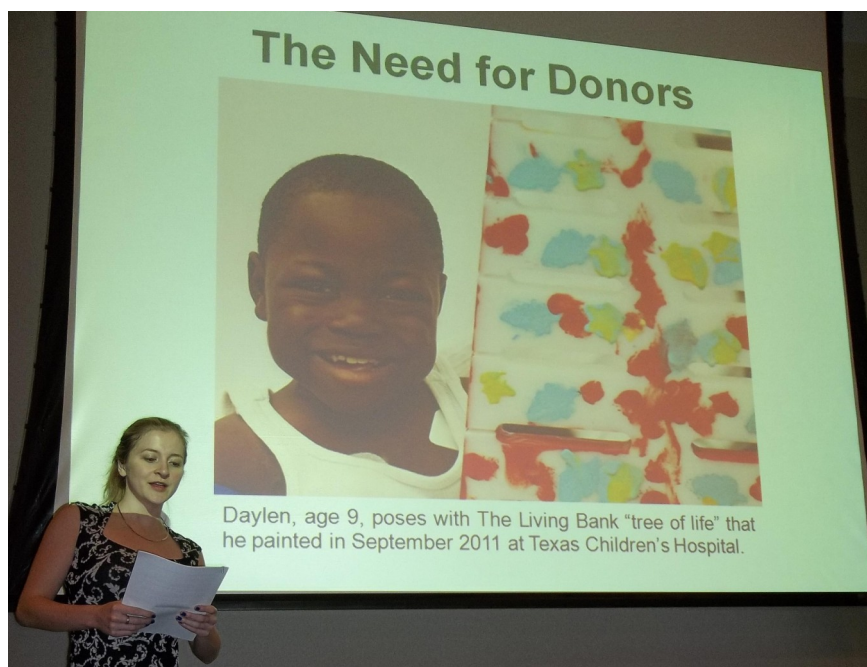
SPRING / SUMMER 2012

## Mission Statement

*Raising awareness of the critical need for organ transplant donors through public education and advocating for donors and their families.*

## Educating the Community

Each week presentations are made in the Houston community to relay facts and answer questions on organ donation and transplantation. If your organization would like to schedule a presentation please email [info@livingbank.org](mailto:info@livingbank.org).



*The Living Bank Program Communications Coordinator, Jennifer Patterson, explains the need for donors at Anadarko Petroleum.*



*An employee of El Paso Corp completes an organ donor registration form at the company's annual health fair.*



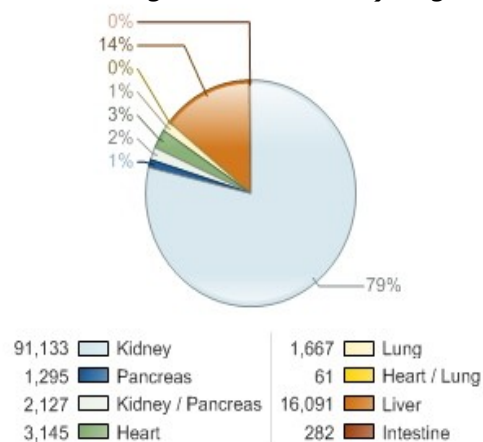
*At an Anadarko Petroleum "lunch & learn" event an employee signs up to be a donor.*

## National Donate Life Month

April is National Donate Life Month and celebrates the hundreds of thousands of donors and recipients whose lives have been affected by organ donation. The month of awareness creates a visible and unified statement about the importance of donation to reflect the dire need for donors and encourages people to register their donation decisions.

More lives can be saved through living donation. In February 2012 the longest chain of kidney transplants from living donors linked 30 people willing to give up an organ with 30 who might have died without one.

## U.S. Waiting List Candidates By Organ



Fewer than 17,000 receive a kidney each year and about 4,500 die waiting. The demand for kidneys rises faster than the number available through deceased donation.

*(Graph is based on current OPTN data as reported on March 16, 2012. Data are subject to change based on future data submission or correction.)*

# EARTH DAY: Recycle Yourself



*"We only have one earth, so we need to take care of her."* That's what the late Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin believed. He was disturbed that an issue as important as our environment was not addressed, so he created the first national Earth Day on April 22, 1970. That day, an estimated 20 million people nationwide attended festivities.

Although Senator Nelson officially founded Earth Day, the idea evolved over a period of many years. It was first introduced in 1962 at a UNESCO Conference in San Francisco and then later sanctioned in a Proclamation signed by Secretary General U Thant at the United Nations.

Earth Day is an example of a truly astonishing grassroots success story. It has led to national legislation such as the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act as well as countless other environmental activities and legislation.

At The Living Bank, we believe that public interest in organ donation and transplantation is exploding across the nation as it never has before. We began as a grassroots nonprofit organization in 1968 with our *living bankers*, energetic volunteers across communities in America, educating and motivating people to become organ donors. We were the first to educate the public on the vital need for organ donors.

Transplantation continues to evolve. With the tools of mass communication delivering the message of the critical need for organ donors, we envision a day when no one will die because an organ donor was not available at their time of need. Through medical advances in transplantation both deceased and living donors can save or greatly improve the quality of life of people on the national organ transplant waiting list.

As you place your glass, plastic, and paper in your recycling bin, please consider recycling yourself by becoming an organ donor. What better way to celebrate Earth Day than saving the life of another human being on this planet of ours.

## Connecting to a Former *Living Banker*

On occasion, we are fortunate to connect to a volunteer from the past. Marianne White was one of the original *living bankers* serving as a volunteer representative of The Living Bank in the local area where she resided - Louisiana.

Marianne was raised in Houston. The seed of her caring nature was planted while attending Springwoods High School, where she donated blood during the school's blood drive. As the years passed, her interest in deceased organ and tissue donation increased and she spent time reading and learning about donation.

In the early 1980's, Marianne moved to Louisiana and contacted The Living Bank to join a select group of volunteers termed *living bankers*. She began advocating for organ donor registration at various religious groups, schools, civic and community organizations.



Former *living banker*, Marianne

Marianne still lives in Louisiana, has an active career, and is married, with a combined family of four adult children, one teenager, and the grandmother to an eight-month old grandson. She continues to be interested in organ and tissue donation and has spent considerable time researching living donation.

Recently, Marianne made the very personal and informed decision to begin the process of determining whether she can become an unrelated kidney donor.

*Volunteers are exceptional people.  
Marianne, you certainly are.*



# The Living Bank Hosts Two YES Prep Seniors

Patricia Villanueva and Elsih Escoto, seniors at the YES (Youth Engaged in Service) Prep Southeast campus, selected organ donation and transplantation as their senior project. YES Prep public school began in 1995 as a district charter school in Houston's East End community. In 1998, it expanded to serve students in grades 6th - 12th and became a state charter school. Today there are 10 area campuses. YES Prep is a model for what is possible within the public education system – high performing schools that provide a college preparatory education for all students.

Elsih and Patricia spent one week with the staff at The Living Bank to learn about deceased and living organ donation and transplantation. They visited Helen Matthis, RN, the Living Donor Coordinator at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center, and Meredith Vela, Quality of Life Program Coordinator at Texas Children's Hospital Renal Services. They went on to visit Dr. David L. S. Morales, a pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon at Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) and Living Bank Board member. Dr. Morales provided information on the process of implanting artificial hearts and heart transplantation for children and young adults.

Dr. A. Osama Gaber, F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S., Director, Methodist J.C. Walter Jr. Transplant Center and Living Bank Board member, discussed the ethics of organ transplantation with the seniors.

Elsih has been accepted to Goucher College and Patricia has been accepted to Texas A&M University. Both are awaiting replies from seven other colleges.



Patricia Villanueva and Elsih Escoto



1. Dr. Morales, Jacob, a recipient of an artificial heart, Patricia, Elsih
2. Patricia, Dr. Morales
3. Patricia, Helen, Elsih
4. Elsih, Patricia, Meredith
5. Elsih, Dr. Gaber, Patricia

# Teen Organ Donation Teen Tweet



Teens, give us a few minutes of your time. Please think about serving as messengers in educating teenagers across the country on the importance of organ donation.

At the end of February it was recorded that the United States had a total resident population of 313,093,000. Teenagers represent 10 percent of that population, 3,130,930. During the last several years only slightly over 7,000 teenagers registered as organ donors per year. More than 112,000 people in the United States are waiting for an organ donation. If more teen drivers registered to become organ donors, many more lives could be saved.

Every teenager who is about to receive a driver's license has the opportunity to become an organ donor. The conversation between teens and parents regarding organ donation shouldn't be rushed or take place in the line at the Department of Motor Vehicles. To make an informed decision, please view our website [www.livingbank.org](http://www.livingbank.org).

The paperwork to become an organ donor when you apply for your driver's license is simple. There is a *yes* or *no* question in regard to being an organ donor listed on the driver's license form that asks you to submit your name, gender and height. If you are 18 years of age, your signature is all that is needed. If you are under the age of 18, a parent or your legal guardian must sign the form.

One person can provide eight critical organs – heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas, and intestine. That's eight lives saved. One tissue donor can enhance dozens of lives with the gift of eyes, bones, skin, heart valves, tendons and veins that fight infections in burn victims, prevent loss of limbs, and restore eyesight.

You can help educate your friends on organ donation by tweeting them today.



## **Tweet this today:**

*"Consider registering as an organ & tissue donor when you get your driver's license."*

Visit [www.livingbank.org](http://www.livingbank.org) to make an informed decision."

After viewing our website, tweet questions to @TheLivingBank.

# Become Our Facebook Fan

Whether you are a college student, professional, stay-at-home parent or retired, if you're on Facebook, we need your help.

Facebook is the world's largest social networking site with more than 800 million active users around the world. Roughly 200 million of those live in the United States. That's two-thirds of the people in our nation. As a Facebook fan of The Living Bank, you'll have the tools to communicate a powerful message – organ donation and transplantation can save lives.

Please go to [www.facebook.com/LivingBank](http://www.facebook.com/LivingBank) and click "Like Us." Browse our page to educate yourself on the process of organ donation and transplantation and the positive aspects of living donation. We are here to answer your questions. Post a question on our wall or send us a message directly. We'll respond in a timely manner and supply helpful links and articles. Share your new knowledge and suggest The Living Bank page to your Facebook friends to help increase organ donor registration.



# Save the Date!

## The Living Bank's Annual Event

### Celebrate Life

On Friday evening, October 19, 2012, the lights go down and the curtains open on the stage of The Junior League of Houston. The audience will be treated to a night of musical comedy fun. The performers are lawyers and judges of all practice areas, the touring ensemble of the Houston Bar Association's, *Night Court*.

Proceeds from the event will benefit programs of The Living Bank.

## A Fresh Look for The Living Bank Website

Please visit our redesigned website at [livingbank.org](http://livingbank.org). The site serves as an information source on organ donation and transplantation. Visitors can download our form to register as organ donors and existing donors can update their donor information instantly. We encourage you to join our email list to receive our newsletter.



### Please consider donating to The Living Bank

To make a contribution, simply complete the form below and, if requested, we will send a card to your honoree acknowledging your thoughtful gift and a card to you acknowledging your donation.

☐ In Thanksgiving for... ☐ In Honor of... ☐ On the Occasion of... ☐ In Memory of... ☐ Contribution (We appreciate your support.)

Name to appear on card (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to appear on card \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contributed by: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover You may also donate online through our secure server at [livingbank.org/contribute](http://livingbank.org/contribute)

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to The Living Bank

The Living Bank P.O. Box 6725 Houston, Texas 7765 1-800-528-2971 [info@livingbank.org](mailto:info@livingbank.org)

One hundred percent of your donation is tax deductible. The Living Bank tax ID number is 74-160-7315. **Thank you.**



The Living Bank  
P.O. Box 6725  
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Toll Free: 1.800.528.2971  
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### History of The Living Bank

October 1968 The Living Bank was established as a nonprofit organization. That year Dr. Denton Cooley and his team of surgeons performed the first heart transplant in the United States in Houston. Five Houston women, realizing no formal way to donate organs existed, saw a need for a donor registry that would allow medical professionals to match organs with waiting recipients.

As the first to raise awareness of the need for organ donors, our organ donor database consists of 2 million individuals from all 50 states who, over the past 43 years, have either received our organ donor information, have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is an organ donor or recipient or have contributed to The Living Bank.

### The Living Bank Founders

Joan S. Anderson, Ph.D.  
Louise Johnson\*  
Glen Karsten\*  
Ester Phillips\*  
Marjorie Robinson\*

\*deceased

### Board Officers

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Cathy Shapley, Office Administrator  
Jennifer Patterson, Communications Program Coordinator

### The Living Bank Programs

Living Donor Advocacy  
General Public & Minority Outreach  
Organ Donor Registration

### Please Consider Donating to The Living Bank

Simply go to [livingbank.org/donate](http://livingbank.org/donate) to make a donation to our secure server.

If your employer matches your donation to nonprofit organizations, please provide your company's matching gift form with your contribution.