



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

Donate Life Month – April 2022

WHEREAS, today, more than 100,000 men, women, and children in the United States need a life-saving organ transplant. In many cases, an organ donation provides another chance to live a full life. For those waiting for that gift of life — the uncertainty can be excruciating, exacting a physical and emotional toll on the potential recipient and their loved ones. During National Donate Life Month, we give thanks to the families and friends of donors who have supported their loved one's decision to save lives by donating; we show our appreciation for the professionals who serve the transplantation community; and we encourage Americans who can to become organ, eye, tissue, marrow, and blood donors. In so doing, we honor those who have given this most extraordinary of gifts; and

WHEREAS, last year, because of the charity and generosity of the American people, our Nation's transplant experts performed more than 41,000 organ transplants — a record number. We saw organ donations from deceased donors set an annual record for the 11th consecutive year. Living donor transplants, which decreased significantly in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, increased with over 6,500 living donor transplants performed; and

WHEREAS, every year, nearly 18,000 people in America are diagnosed with life-threatening blood cancers or other diseases for which a blood stem cell transplant may be their best or only hope for a cure. Approximately 70 percent of these individuals need donors from outside their families. Although nearly 23 million adults in the United States are currently registered as blood stem cell donors, we need more registrants to help the many individuals who still have difficulty finding a suitably matched donor; and

WHEREAS, while transplantation continues to increase substantially and meet the needs of many people with organ failure, we must continue our efforts to shorten the waiting list and encourage organ donation. If you have not signed up as an organ donor, we can use your help. I encourage every American to help people in need by visiting organdonor.gov for organ, eye, and tissue donation, and bloodstemcell.hrsa.gov for marrow and blood donation; and

WHEREAS, during Donate Life Month, we thank the millions of individuals across America who are living or registered organ donors. We recognize and commend the researchers, advocates, volunteers, and medical professionals working to reduce the number of people awaiting vital organ transplants. The City of Milton applauds the therapeutic innovations that have decreased rates of organ rejection and have extended the lifespan of transplanted organs.



CITY OF **M**ILTON

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anissa Welch, Mayor of the City of Milton, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as National Donate Life Month.

Further, I call upon every person who can to share the gift of life and hope by becoming organ, eye, tissue, marrow, and blood donors.

Signed this 6th day of April, 2022

Mayor Anissa M. Welch

Attest:

Jenny Salvo, City Clerk