



PROCLAMATION

DMV/Donate Life California Month April 2013

WHEREAS, organ, tissue, marrow and blood donation are life-giving acts recognized worldwide as expressions of compassion to those in need; and

WHEREAS, more than 116,000 individuals nationwide and more than 21,000 in California are currently on the national organ transplant waiting list, and every 90 minutes one person dies while waiting due to the shortage of donated organs; and

WHEREAS, the need for donated organs is especially urgent in Hispanic and African American communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 600,000 units of blood per year are needed to meet the blood shortage in California. At any given time, 6,000 patients are in need of volunteer marrow donors; and

WHEREAS, nearly ten million Californians have signed up with the state-authorized Donate Life California Registry to ensure their wishes to be organ and tissue donors are honored. The spirit of giving and decision to donate are not restricted by age or medical condition.

WHEREAS, a single individual's donation of the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine can save up to eight lives. Donation of tissue can save and heal the lives of up to 50 others; and a single blood donation can help three people in need; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HELENE SCHNEIDER, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim April 2013 as **DMV/DONATE LIFE CALIFORNIA MONTH** in the City of Santa Barbara and urge all Californians to check "YES!" when applying for or renewing their driver's license or I.D. card or by signing up at www.donateLIFECalifornia.org.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 16th day of April 2013.

HELENE SCHNEIDER
Mayor

