



You have the power to donate life



A Donate Life organization

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## **OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY AND TRANSPLANT NETWORK PARTNER WITH CLINICA DE LA RAZA TO SAVE LIVES**

### ***Delivering Educational Program on Health Maintenance and Organ Donation***

OAKLAND, CA – (Monday, November 13, 2006) - The California Transplant Donor Network, in association with the Cesar Chavez branch of the Oakland Public Library and Clinica de La Raza, will present an educational program for the public titled: “Adoptando Habitos Saludables” (Adopting Healthy Habits). Health educators will present important information on topics including:

- How to maintain good health by changing diet and lifestyle
- How to reduce and manage stress
- Why become an organ and tissue donor.

“We believe this program will provide a valuable education about how to avoid needing an organ transplant by maintaining one’s health,” says Andres Lozano, Community Affairs Coordinator for the Transplant Network. “This is important to Latinos because we’re more likely than other groups to suffer from kidney disease for example,” Lozano notes.

The program will also mark the launch of a project to bring internet access to underserved residents of Fruitvale and enable them to sign-up on the **Donate Life California** Organ and Tissue Donor Registry (In Spanish: [www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org](http://www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org)).

The goals of this project are to expand public access to computers and enable people to record their wishes to save lives. Californians can sign-up to be organ and tissue donors at any computer with Internet capability.

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“Signing-up on the registry only takes minutes – minutes that can mean years of life to patients waiting for a transplant,” according to Andres Lozano, Community Affairs Coordinator for the Transplant Network. “All of our organizations are committed to reaching-out to the community and enabling them to give the gift of life,” Lozano says.

**Where:** Oakland Public Library, Cesar Chavez Branch (meeting room), 3301 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 271, Oakland, 94601 (510) 535-5621

**When:** Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 6:00PM.

### **Fast Facts**

- More than 28,000 people received organ transplants last year; 3244 in California.
- More than 93,000 people in the United States are waiting for organ transplants to save their lives; 21% reside in California. More than 2,100 of those waiting are children under the age of 18.
- Each day, more than 18 people – one every 90 minutes – die in the United States because of a shortage of organ donors. In 2005, more than 6,000 individuals died on the U.S. organ-transplant waiting list because the organs they needed were not donated in time. About 13 people are added to the national organ transplant waiting list every day.
- One person can potentially save up to eight lives as an organ donor, and touch more than 50 others through tissue donation. To become a donor, go to **[www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org](http://www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org)** or **[www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org](http://www.doneVIDAcalifornia.org)**. At this website you can both officially record your wishes to be a donor and notify your family.

### **California Transplant Donor Network**

The California Transplant Donor Network saves and improves lives by facilitating organ and tissue donation for transplantation. The Transplant Network helps 160 hospitals in 40 Northern and Central California and Northern Nevada counties offer the option of organ and tissue donation to families whose loved ones have died, coordinates deceased organ recovery and placement, and provides public education with the hope that every resident will become a donor. It is federally designated as this region’s organ recovery organization. For more information, visit **[www.ctdn.org](http://www.ctdn.org)** or call 1-888-570-9400.

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