



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Advisory/Photo Opportunity**

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**FAMILIES of ORGAN and TISSUE DONORS HONOR and REMEMBER
LOVED ONES at CALIFORNIA TRANSPLANT DONOR NETWORK
DONOR FAMILY CEREMONY**
Two donor families to meet recipients for first time

**Saturday, April 30, Chabot College, Performing Arts Theater, Noon
AND
Sunday, May 1, Chabot College, Performing Arts Theater, Noon**

What: **More than 1,000 central and northern California families of organ and tissue donors, transplant recipients, and healthcare professionals join in an emotional afternoon to celebrate the lives of those who made the decision to give the gift of organs and/or tissues. For many, this will be the first time they will acknowledge their loved one’s gifts in a public setting. The program includes live musical performances, a video tribute to the donors and their families, and inspiring testimonials from donors and recipients. For two central and northern California families this will be the first time that they will meet the recipients of their loved one’s donations.**

Donor Family/ Recipient Meetings	
Donor	Meeting (Saturday, April 30)
Ruben Bernal (21 years-old)	Ruben’s mother, Maria (Spanish speaker from Fremont) and family members will meet Ruben’s heart and kidney recipient Robert Moss, 61, and his wife, Cheryl (Livermore) for the first time.
Donor	Meeting (Sunday, May 1)
Vinny Warda (17 years-old)	Vinny’s father, Dino, (Modesto) will be meeting Vinny’s kidney recipient, Brenda Davis. 53(Fremont) for the first time.

Who:

- **Cynthia Siljestrom**, Chief Executive Officer, California Transplant Donor Network (CTDN)
- **Kenneth P. Moritsugu, MD**, former Acting Surgeon General of the United States. His wife was killed in a 1992 auto accident and his daughter in a 1996 auto accident. Both of them were organ and tissue donors.
- **Anabel Mariko Stenzel & Isabel Yuriko Stenzel Byrnes**, twin sisters, who both received double lung transplants due to Cystic Fibrosis in 2000 and 2004 respectively; story being told in movie, "The Power of Two."
- **Performance by Nevada Dancing Academy, Ann Wyak Norris**, donor mother in memory of Kristen Wyak and all organ donors.
- **Marcie Becker Waldron**, 56, who received a kidney/pancreas transplant in 1997
- **Stewart Tartan Pipes and Drums of San Francisco with Isabel Yuriko Stenzel Byrnes.**

When:

Saturday, April, 30, 2011 – 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 1, 2011, 12:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. Best visuals are during family meetings.

Where:

Donor Family Meetings (both days): In front of - The Performing Arts Theater – Chabot College - 12:00 p.m. – 1:00p.m.
25555 Hesperian Blvd., Building 1300
Hayward, California 94545

Ceremony (both days): The Performing Arts Theater - Chabot College - 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
25555 Hesperian Blvd., Building 1300
Hayward, California 94545

The California Transplant Donor Network saves and improves lives by facilitating organ and tissue donation for transplantation. The Transplant Network helps 175 hospitals in 41 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 or call 1-888-570-9400.

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