



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

October 18, 2017

Dear Spiritual Leader,

This year faith communities in Illinois and across the nation will celebrate National Donor Sabbath on Nov. 10-12. This weekend raises awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation. We ask that you and your congregation participate by addressing the importance of organ and tissue donation.

Currently there are more than 116,000 people in the U.S. and approximately 4,700 individuals throughout Illinois that are awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant. Approximately 300 people in our state die each year waiting for a transplant or tissue donation. By recognizing the importance of donation, you and your congregation can help to change this statistic.

Our office maintains the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry. This registry ensures that the wishes of those who want to donate are followed, saving hundreds of lives. Our mission is to strengthen the Illinois organ and tissue donor registry through outreach and registration initiatives.

As you know, the faith community makes a significant and lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals. Your observance of National Donor Sabbath is an influential way to raise awareness of a worthy cause and potentially save lives. If you wish to participate, we can provide free informational materials including bulletin inserts, posters and brochures to share with your congregation. Speakers and staff are also available to host an information table and/or address your place of worship.

To request materials, speakers or information about this event, please contact Connie Boatman at 312-814-9493 or wboatman@ilsos.net.

I appreciate your consideration in participating in this year's National Donor Sabbath celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

Jesse White
Illinois Secretary of State