



June 9, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Maryanne Aldrich

(603) 747-9189

Cottage Hospital joins in the Donate Life Ceremony

Woodsville, NH -- Cottage Hospital joined other New Hampshire hospitals, state organizations, and state government officials in a proclamation and flag raising ceremony at the state house on June 2nd for Donate Life month. New Hampshire is the first state in the US to have flown the same Donate Life flag above each of its hospitals.

The event began in the Executive Council Chambers and after a short speaking and proclamation ceremony, presented by Governor Lynch, the event continued outside on the State House grounds for the flag-raising where additional words were given by Councilor Ray Burton.

Cottage Hospital CEO, Maria Ryan, was one of the honored guest speakers of the day. Ryan shared a touching story of a local young woman's life changing moments, when she was given the gift of life through an organ and tissue donation by her family members. Ryan, who has also been a donor recipient noted the importance of the New England Organ Bank and credited the New Hampshire government for their role in the state donor registry program.

Other speakers and attendees of the day included , Berta Grunbeck, New England Organ Bank Hospital Relations Coordinator, Dave Teune, New England Organ Bank Donation Coordinator, Jane Bergeron, Double Lung Recipient, Patricia Schmidt , Donor Mother, Executive Councilor, Ray Burton, NH DMV Director, Richard Bailey, NH Representative, Rick Ladd, NH Representative, Carla Skinder, and Governor John Lynch.

Donate Life New England is a joint project of two federally designated organ procurement organizations that serve New England – LifeChoice Donor Services and New England Organ Bank. They have come together to create a fast and easy way for citizens of New England to register as organ and tissue donors in a secure and confidential manner. For more information, visit www.donatelifenewengland.org.

Cottage Hospital is a 25 bed, critical access hospital serving the beautiful Upper Connecticut River Valley. For additional information regarding Cottage Hospital and any of our services, visit us on the web at www.cottagehospital.org, or call (603)747-9000.

#