



### **Colquitt Regional Earns National Recognition for Promoting Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation**

**MOULTRIE, Ga** – Colquitt Regional recently earned national recognition for its efforts to increase organ, eye and tissue donor registrations across the state of Georgia through the DoNation Campaign. DoNation engages workplaces of all sizes and industries to highlight the importance in the lifesaving and life-giving mission of organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

In partnership with LifeLink® of Georgia, the local organ and tissue recovery program, and Donate Life Georgia, the state’s organ and tissue donor registry, Colquitt Regional earned the Bronze level of recognition for conducting organ donation education and donor registration activities between October 1, 2022 and September 30, 2023.

During the 2022-2023 campaign cycle, the hospital was one of 87 participating hospital partners within the LifeLink service area. Through educational opportunities, trainings, and collaboration between the hospital’s Staff Nurse Advisory Council and LifeLink, new donor registrations were added to the Donate Life Georgia state donor registry and donation awareness was raised.

“The passion and advocacy that our ICU team has for organ donation is inspiring,” said Colquitt Regional Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer Dena Zinker. “They deal with our most critical patients day after day, and they have seen the importance of organ donation and how the process is both life-changing and life-saving for so many patients and their families.”

Colquitt Regional had four ICU nurses, Hazel Hill, RN, Kim Myricks, RN, Beylee Bozeman, RN, and Liz Ann Parrish, BSN, RN, represent the hospital at the LifeLink of Georgia Donor Resource Training Program. The goal of the program is to improve the organ, eye, and tissue donation process through the help of

clinical champions in critical care units. These clinical champions are dedicated to serving as a resource in real time by working with physicians, other members of the care team, and LifeLink staff in order help facilitate the donation process.

“I commend everyone who played a role in Colquitt Regional receiving this award,” said Hospital Authority Chairman Richard E. Turner, Jr. “This further displays the dedication of our staff members and their commitment to helping spread awareness about organ donation.”

Nationally, over 103,000 individuals are waiting for a lifesaving transplant and more than 3,000 of those individuals live in Georgia. Every day in the United States, 17 people pass away because an organ was not available in time, and every nine minutes, another person is added to the national organ transplant waiting list.

This ongoing need reaffirms the critical and growing importance for more registered organ, eye, and tissue donors. Anyone, regardless of their age or health can make their decision to become a registered organ and tissue donor when obtaining a driver license through the Department of Driver Services, when purchasing a hunting or fishing license online through the Department of Natural Resources, or online by going to [www.DonateLifeGeorgia.org](http://www.DonateLifeGeorgia.org).

For more information on this award, please contact the Colquitt Regional marketing department at 229-890-3552.

###

Caption: Colquitt Regional recently earned national recognition for its efforts to increase organ, eye and tissue donor registrations across the state of Georgia through the DoNation Campaign. Pictured from left: Danny Johnson, LifeLink of Georgia Hospital Development Liaison, Renee Ellenberg, BSN, RN, CMSRN, Director of Intensive Care Unit, Progressive Care Unit, and Telemetry, Liz Ann Parrish, BSN, RN, Assistant Nurse Manager of Intensive Care Unit, Progressive Care Unit, and Telemetry, and Dr. Michael Brown, Chief Medical Officer and Pulmonary and Critical Care Physician.