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## **Iowa Donor Network Forges New Tissue Donation Partnership**

**Iowa City, IA (February, 2005)---** Iowa Donor Network, the federally designated non-profit organization that coordinates donation services for the state of Iowa, announced that they have entered into a Recovery Agreement with the Musculoskeletal Transplant Foundation (MTF).

MTF is the largest tissue bank in the nation and has been involved with the recovery, processing and distribution of bone and related soft tissues for over seventeen years. MTF has arranged for Iowa Donor Network to recover all musculoskeletal tissue in several hospitals throughout the state of Iowa.

“MTF has an excellent reputation and their commitment to tissue donation is unequalled. Our relationship will enhance the service we provide to our community both in terms of tissue transplantation and in expanding donation options. I am very excited about our new relationship with MTF,” said Suzanne Conrad of Iowa Donor Network.”

“We are equally pleased to have this opportunity to expand our services and organization in Iowa,” stated Bruce Stroeve, President and CEO of MTF. “Because of MTF’s commitment to returning donor tissue to the local community, this new partnership will ensure that surgeons and hospitals in the Iowa Donor Network’s service area will have priority access to tissue grafts provided by MTF.”

Iowa Donor Network and MTF share a commitment to providing excellent service, with dedication and deep respect for donors and their families. The organizations also share a mutual dedication to ensure that patients in need of tissue transplants receive the highest quality, safest tissue grafts available.

Tissue donation is an altruistic end-of-life gift. Remarkably, one tissue donor has the potential of saving or enhancing the lives of more than 50 people. Donated human tissue is used in a wide range of vital medical procedures, including grafting skin for burn victims, replacing defective heart valves, saving limbs following tumor surgery, reconstructing hip and knee joints, and correcting spinal defects.

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