



**Media Contacts:**

**Melinda Lockard**  
MTF  
651-994-9450 Ext. 123  
**Melinda Lockard@mtf.org**

**Sue Poveromo**  
LifePoint  
1-800-462-0755  
**PoveromoS@lifepoint-sc.org**

**LifePoint Forges New Tissue Donation Partnership**

**Charleston, SC (February, 2005)**--- LifePoint, Inc., the federally designated non-profit organization that coordinates organ, tissue and eye donation services in South Carolina, 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. In 2004, it provided over 340,000 transplantable tissues throughout the United States. MTF will process the tissue recovered by LifePoint so that it can be distributed to hospitals throughout the state of South Carolina.

“I am very excited about our new relationship with MTF. MTF has an excellent reputation and their commitment to tissue donation is unequaled. I am also heartened that MTF shares LifePoint’s commitment to caring for donor families. I truly believe that our relationship will enhance the services we provide to our community, both in terms of tissue transplantation and in expanding donation options,” said Nancy A. Kay, CEO of LifePoint.

“We are equally pleased to have this opportunity to expand our services and organization in South Carolina,” 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 LifePoint’s service area will have priority access to tissue grafts provided by MTF.”

LifePoint 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.

###