



**For immediate release**

**Contact: Jeanette Slakey**

**504.232.1479**

[jslakey@organawareness.org](mailto:jslakey@organawareness.org)

## **OVER 1,600 LOUISIANANS ARE ON LOUISIANA'S TRANSPLANT WAITING LIST**

**New Orleans, LA, June 6, 2005** – Caitlin just celebrated her seventh birthday. There would have been no candles or cake if not for the generosity of a family who donated their child's organs during their time of grief. Because of that decision, Caitlin received a liver transplant – allowing her family to celebrate many more birthdays.

Thousands of African-Americans are in need of life-saving organs. In Louisiana, they make up 70% of the kidney transplant waiting list, while comprising only 33% of the population. However, African-Americans only make up 28% of Louisiana's organ donors. For many, the chance to live a full life won't come unless many more of us consider organ and tissue donation.

Discuss organ donation with your family and friends. Talk about donating life. To become an organ and tissue donor go to [www.organawareness.org](http://www.organawareness.org).

*Hundreds of people on Louisiana's organ transplant waiting list die every year – not because there is no treatment – but because there are too few organ donors. One donor can save or enhance the lives of more than 50 people. The mission of the Legacy Donor Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, is to prevent the loss of human life due to the lack of available organs by educating the citizens of our state about the critical need for organ and tissue donation. Through public education and awareness activities, the Foundation promotes organ donation and fosters informed family consent.*

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