



Katy Gallagher MLA

DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER

MINISTER FOR HEALTH

MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

MEDIA RELEASE

MR9H

ACT organ donations highest in country

The latest organ donation data shows the generosity of ten multi organ donor families in the ACT transformed the lives of 32 Australians, ACT Minister for Health Katy Gallagher MLA said today.

“This report shows the ACT community is leading the way when it comes to organ donation rates. We are a generous community who can see that organ donation supports and improves the lives of other Australians. The gift of life provided by 10 local people has saved the lives of many more and we thank them and their families for their donation,” said Ms Gallagher.

The data for 2010, released by the Australian and New Zealand Organ Donation Registry today, shows the ACT is the standout jurisdiction in Australia.

“Organ donation rates in the ACT have been improving year by year – from 4 multi organ donors in 2006, to 5 in 2008, 8 in 2009 and 10 in 2010,” said Ms Gallagher.

“Our 10 multi organ donors in 2010 equates to 28 donors per million population. Overall, Australia's rate was 14 donors per million – a significant increase on last year's performance.

“This report also gives us the opportunity to remind the community about the importance of discussing your wishes about organ donation with your loved ones. If a situation arises where you can be an organ donor it will make it a lot easier for your family for them to know exactly what your wishes are,” the Minister concluded.

Nationwide, Australia had 309 organ donors in 2010 up from 247 in 2009. The improvement follows a commitment from the Federal Government through a reform program of \$151 million to boost organ and tissue donation.

More information is available at www.donatelife.gov.au or www.giftoflife.asn.au

Statement Ends

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