

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX

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February 13th, 2009

Lewis R. Goldfrank
Professor and Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine
School of Medicine, Emergency Medicine
Old Bellevue 3rd 345A
462 First Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Dr. Goldfrank:

At the February 12th Full Board meeting of Community Board 6 the Board adopted the following resolution:

RE: EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGAN DONATION

Whereas, organ donations currently come from two sources, in-hospital deaths and live donors; and

Whereas, organ donations from these two sources are not sufficient to meet the need of the transplant recipients, resulting in many people being placed on waiting lists for an organ transplant needed to save their life many dying before an organ is made available to them; and

Whereas, Dr. Lewis Goldfrank, Director of Emergency Medicine at Bellevue Hospital, has developed a pilot program that seeks to rectify this organ donation shortfall by seeking to make it possible that those individuals who die at home or elsewhere in unanticipated out-of-hospital deaths could be voluntarily included in the organ donation program; and

Whereas, organ donation and preservation present difficult ethical issues that are of concern; and

Whereas, the pilot project would help to determine the best approach to ensure that no person would become part of the organ donation process without explicit consent


or have his or her standard of care by emergency medical workers lessened because of possible organ donation and/or organ preservation methods; and

Whereas, expanding the opportunities for organ donation would translate to more lives saved with more organs available for transplant; and

Therefore be it Resolved; that Community Board Six, Manhattan strongly supports the proposed pilot project of Dr. Lewis Goldfrank and his colleagues development of methodologies to expand organ donation opportunities and to preserve the organs of deceased persons who have died in the home or out-of-hospital and are on the New York State Organ Donor registry or whose families have given consent.

VOTE: 30 in Favor 2 Opposed 0 Abstention 1 Not Entitled

Yours, truly,



Toni Carlina
District Manager

Cc: Sandro Sherrod