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### **ATVS ACROSS AMERICA MOVES THROUGH NEW ORLEANS DRIVING PEOPLE TO DONATE LIFE**

*New Orleans, LA, April 16, 2008*—ATVs Across America will drive through New Orleans on Wednesday, April 23. The riders are traveling across the nation inspiring people to Donate Life by registering as organ donors. The group is traveling the entire length of I-10 from Florida to California.

The Riders will make public appearances along the way including stops in New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Lafayette. All of the participants know first hand about the life-saving gift that organ and tissue donation because they are either organ donor family members or transplant recipients. The riders will engage the public in discussion about the importance of registering to become an organ, eye and tissue donor.

Donate Life Louisiana will welcome the riders at the West Jefferson Fitness Center at Oakwood Mall from noon to 6 p.m. on their way through New Orleans.

“Most people don’t understand the immense need for organ donation until it directly affects their lives,” says Jeanette Slakey, Executive Director for the Legacy Donor Foundation. “But the reality is, organ donations save lives every day. However this is not enough. Sadly everyday 18 people die waiting for a transplant. “

In the United States, there are nearly 100,000 people on the transplant waiting list. Nearly 1,800 of those are in Louisiana. One organ donor can save up to nine people, restore sight to two people and enhance the lives of up to 50 more through tissue donation.

To learn more about ATVs Across America, please visit [www.arideacrossamerica.org](http://www.arideacrossamerica.org). For more information on registering to become a donor, visit [www.donatelifela.org](http://www.donatelifela.org).

The mission of Donate Life Louisiana, collaboration between LOPA –Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency and the Legacy Donor Foundation, is to provide education and awareness programs to the citizens of Louisiana about organ and tissue donation.

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