

# News

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\*\*\*\*Lions present van

DALLAS -- The Transplant Resources and Services Center at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas was recently presented with a 1988 Ford Aerostar van from District 2X1 Lions clubs. The new van will be used for hospital transportation, donor screening and in-service teaching programs at hospitals.

The transplant services center houses the organ bank for this region. "Bankable organs" are the non-vital organs that do not have to be transplanted immediately, including skin, corneas, bone and connective tissue. The UT Southwestern facility was the major pioneer in skin banking and combined forces with the Lions Club eye bank in 1977 to form the UT/Lions Sight and Tissue Foundation.

Ellen Heck, administrative director of the foundation, said that the gift of a van is particularly important at this time with the implementation of the new routine-injury legislation that broadens the powers for obtaining organs for donation. "We are already receiving more calls although the law was only implemented Jan. 1," said Heck.

"These Lions Clubs have been pioneers in this country in supporting all transplant programs as evidenced by their affiliating with us in 1977. We are deeply grateful for this gift and all the others," she said.

Howard Snyder, vice president of the Lions Sight and Tissue Foundation, stated that the Lions are happy they could make this gift possible. "They did not have the equipment to adequately take care of donors before," he commented.

Regional Lions organizations contributing to the van included the Carrollton Evening, Dal-Cliff, Dallas Founders, Dallas Indian, Dallas Oak Cliff, Dallas Park Cities, Garland Host and Plano Early Lions clubs.

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Note: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School.