

# Coroner Resource Committee

October 15, 2013

Raeann Brown  
Coroner/Funeral Services Liaison

A  ORGANIZATION

 **DONOR  
ALLIANCE**  
*Organ & Tissue Donation*

# Raeann Brown

- The Coroner/Funeral Services Liaison is responsible for developing and maintaining effective relationships and communication with Coroners and Funeral Directors throughout Donor Alliance's service area to facilitate the donor process and increase Donor Alliance visibility.

# Background

- **Biology and Criminalistics**
  - Human anatomy and crime scene investigations
- **Death Investigator**
  - Previous Colorado State Certified Death Investigator
    - Over 1,000 death investigations
- **Tissue Donor Coordinator**
  - 6 years of organ and tissue donation experience

# Liaison Platform

- Territory: 83 Coroners and 235 Funeral Homes
- Partnership relations
- Identify barriers to the Organ and Tissue donation process
  - Communication barrier
  - Education barrier
- Coroner Protocol and the UAGA
- Zero Coroner Rule Outs
- Resource for Coroners and Funeral Home Personnel

# Liaison Platform

- Provide educational presentations
- Direct referral programs
- Coroner Resource Committee/Mortuary Resource Committee
- CCA, WYCA, NFDA, COFDA, DMFDA, WyFDA

# Karan Collins

- Director of Hospital Development

# Meeting Format

- Collaborative effort
- Productive
- Challenge/Solution based
  - Education/Communication
  - Process improvement
- Quarterly
- Regional quarterly
  - Hosts

# Integrated Training Opportunities

- CCA Annual Conference and Training Seminars
- Scene ride along/Autopsy attendance
- Organ and Tissue cases
- BD/DCD/Tissue presentations
  - Front line questions
- CEU's
- Community Supported Events
  - Donor Dash
  - Donor Family Tribute



# Electronic Release Options

- 1 year with Jefferson CCO
- Form replaces verbal release options conversation
- Does NOT replace Coroner Checklist
- Benefits
  - Minimizes phone calls/limited staff
  - Allows quick reference and reply
- Smart Phone/iPad accessible
  - Filled out and sent from the field
- Need one general email address, max of two
- RMLEB is unable at this time to participate

# Autopsy Reports

- Tissue CANNOT be released from quarantine until autopsy/toxicology report is received
- Autopsy reports provided to UNOS on organ cases
- Request for report is sent immediately
  - Follow-up at 45 days
  - Follow-up again at 90 day
  - CFSL phone call
- Challenges
  - Communication when autopsy/toxicology is not performed
    - Contact during business hours

# Coroner Dashboard

- Quarterly
- Donation data
  - Organ and Tissue referrals/donors
  - Direct referrals/donors
- Pathway letters
- Time constraints post autopsy
- Autopsy reports
- Did you know?

# Surveys

- First
  - Demographic
  - Communication preferences
  - Logistics
- Education
  - BD/DCD
  - Tissue
  - Coroner Protocol/UAGA

# What's Going Well

- Communication for process improvement
  - 3\* new processes implemented
    - Transport
    - Hospital release verification

# Challenges/Solutions

- Bridging the communication gap
  - Organ cases
    - DCD vs. Brain Death
    - Potential rule-outs
- Coroner Protocol

# Agenda Items

- Next quarterly meeting
- Round table

# Questions/Comments

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