



Eye Bank Association of America

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
August 1, 2008

For More Information Contact:
Trish Hardy, Member Services Coordinator
(202) 775-4999 x18

PEGGY HILL NAMED 2008 GIFT OF SIGHT AWARDEE BY THE EYE BANK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (EBAA)

HOLLYWOOD, FL – At its 47th Annual Meeting, the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) presented the Gift of Sight Award to Peggy Hill of North Dakota.

The Gift of Sight Award is presented to a professional who works closely with the eye banking community and has gone above and beyond the call of duty in support of eye and corneal donation. This award honors a person who has had an impact on eye banking and made an extraordinary contribution to sight restoration.

A registered nurse, Ms. Hill has worked at the MeritCare Health System in Fargo, North Dakota for more than 35 years. She serves as both lead house administrator and Chair of the Donation Resource Team at MeritCare, where she has led in developing and maintaining donation policies and procedures and building strong partnerships with all human anatomical donation organizations.

Not only has Ms. Hill spearheaded an annual National Eye Donor Month awareness campaign that reaches more than 7,000 MeritCare associates, she has also worked

diligently with the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank staff to facilitate eye donation and provide education to health professionals and the community.

“We are proud to recognize Peggy’s commitment to eye donation,” stated EBAA President and CEO, Patricia Aiken-O’Neill, Esq. “Eye donation makes possible more than 50,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants annually. Corneal transplants and other procedures using donated eye tissue restores sight and renews life by returning people to productive and active lives,” she stated.

The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the nation. The EBAA is dedicated to the restoration of sight through the promotion and advancement of eye banking. It has led the transplantation field with the establishment of medical standards for the distribution of eyes and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye banking personnel. These standards have been used as models for other transplantation organizations. Member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. These eye banks make possible more than 50,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants annually.

###

EBAA • 1015 18th Street, NW, Suite 1010 • Washington, DC 20036 •
www.restoresight.org