EMBALMING REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES

Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network, a not-for-profit organization, realizes that procurement of organs and tissues from a deceased donor may result in extra efforts during the embalming process. The following guidelines are intended to provide reimbursement to funeral directors and embalmers for any extra preparation time required to properly embalm the remains of an organ and/or tissue donor, and to ensure that any additional costs are not incurred by the donor family.

It is Gift of Hope’s intent that a donor family never, under any circumstances, be confronted about charges or costs for donation-related expenses. Gift of Hope’s reimbursement for preparation work is not a payment for the organs and/or tissues and it should not be given to the donor family but should only be used to compensate the funeral home for the additional expenses incurred during the embalming process. The reimbursement is for services required specifically and exclusively due to organ and/or tissue donation. There is no reimbursement for trauma related injuries, surgery, or autopsy.

Under no circumstances should the family be pursued for payment for additional charges incurred due to organ and/or tissue donation. Upon request, Gift of Hope will directly reimburse the funeral home for this portion of the billing.

To submit a claim for reimbursement, please fill out the attached form and return it with a non-certified copy of the death certificate by mail or fax. The payment must be requested by the Funeral Home that provides the services directly to the family.

NOTE: If the funeral director claiming reimbursement is acting as an Independent Funeral Director then a copy of the bill showing the independent funeral director’s signature must also be submitted.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Lower extremity bone donation – reimbursement to a maximum of $200.00
- Upper extremity bone donation – reimbursement to a maximum of $125.00
- Solid organ donation [chest and/or abdominal cavities] reimbursement to a maximum of $200.00
- Skin donation – reimbursement to a maximum of $100.00
- Saphenous Vein only donation [without lower extremity bone procurement] - reimbursement to a maximum of $50.00
- VB’s/Spine donation [posterior incision] reimbursement to a maximum of $50.00
- Combination of organ and tissue – reimbursement to a maximum of $675.00

Although Gift of Hope requests consent on behalf of other donor related organizations including research-only facilities, reimbursement is only available for donations performed by Gift of Hope.

Please forward your completed reimbursement form AND non-certified copy of the death certificate:

John Krenn FDE, CTBS, CRCST
Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network
425 Spring Lake Drive
Itasca, IL 60143
630-758-2779 Fax 630-758-2979