

REFORM JUDAISM

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Department of Jewish Family Concerns
Rabbi Richard F. Address, Director
Committee on Bioethics - June 3, 1997

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), through its Committee on Bioethics, is committed to the concept of Organ Donation and Transplantation as a positive example of the traditional Jewish value of P'kuach nefesh (the saving of a life).

Through the development of the UAHC's Matan Chaim (The Gift of Life) program, the UAHC has been able to develop programmatic and educational material for use in its member congregations which illustrate and promulgate involvement in issues of Organ Donation and Transplantation.

The mood of Reform Judaism, through its rabbinical (Central Conference of American Rabbis) and congregational (Union of American Hebrew Congregations) arms reflects the idea, based upon our understanding of Jewish tradition and values; that involvement in this issue is, in truth, a contemporary Mitzvah.