Proclamation Recognizing November 2026 as Eye Donation Month

Whereas The gift of sight is one of life's most precious senses and is often taken for granted; and

Whereas Corneal blindness affects more than 12 million people worldwide, many of whom could have their sight restored through corneal transplantation made possible by the selfless generosity of eye donors and their families; and

Whereas The impact of donation is significant. In 2025 alone, U.S. eye banks recovered ocular tissue from more than 72,000 donors and provided tissue for more than 86,000 corneal transplants. In Texas, more than 10,000 people continue to wait for a lifesaving transplant; and

Whereas The San Antonio Eye Bank, serving Hidalgo County, works diligently to recover, prepare, and provide corneal tissue for sight-restoring transplants, research, and education; and

Whereas Eye Donation Month, observed each November by the Eye Bank Association of America and its member organizations, seeks to raise awareness, honor donors, celebrate recipients, and encourage individuals to make informed decisions about organ tissue and eye donation; and

Whereas Through education and collaboration, our community can replace misconceptions about donation with facts, ensuring that individuals and families can make the best, most informed decisions about giving the gift of sight; and

Whereas We recognize and honor all eye donors and their families for their life-changing generosity, as well as the medical professionals, surgeons, and eye bank teams who help restore vision and bring light back to those living in darkness.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims November 2026 as Eye Donation Month and encourages all residents to learn more about eye, organ, and tissue donation because your generous donation can transform someone's life.

Approved this 10th day of November 2026.

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RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

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DAVID L. FUENTES	**EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU**
County Commissioner, Pct. 1	County Commissioner, Pct. 2
_____	_____
EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL	**ELLIE TORRES**
County Commissioner, Pct. 3	County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk