Learn more about the Gospel Fest!

Leadership changes at MIS and other news.

Gospel Fest 2021
NOVEMBER 14
4 PM - 6 PM EST

Scan QR code with your phone to Register!

MIS NAMES INGRID SCHUNDER
NEW PRESIDENT

Winston-Salem, NC (July 28, 2021)

Ingrid Schunder began her career in eye banking in 1999 in Austin, Texas at the Lone Star Lions Eye Bank. During her 13 years there, she performed all aspects of eye banking in her role as Technical Director.

Prior to her career in eye banking, Ingrid served in the United States Army as a Commanding General’s Attendant and taught high school Spanish and English. For more information click [here](#).

NOVEMBER 14 - Minority Donor Awareness Committee has put together an event with Donate Life NC to host its first Virtual Gospel Festival, honoring and celebrating the lives of organ, eye and tissue donors in North Carolina, who continue to make an impact in our community. Everyone please join us in this celebration! Click [here](#) to register for free!

The Virtual Gospel Fest will feature national & local performing artists, as well as inspirational stories from donor families and recipients. Artists will include Charliise Renee (top left), Patrick Love (top right), Heart 2 Heart, and The Park Church Kingdom Voices (below). Hosted by Tanya Rivens, WCCB News Rising TV & Radio Personality Streez 103.3 & 100.5 (top left).
2021 is the 60th Anniversary of the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA). The creation of Eye Donation Month began in 1983 and is held each November. This is an opportunity to put a spotlight on the 12 million people worldwide suffering from blindness that can be restored with a corneal transplant.

Eye Donation Month raises Awareness about corneal donation and transplantation, Honors the gift of sight given by selfless donors and their families, Celebrates cornea transplant recipients living their fullest lives thanks to the generosity of donors, and Educates about eye donation and encourages individuals to register as donors.

Contact your Professional Development Specialist to plan your facility’s participation in the Eye Donation Month celebration.

Medical Advancements:

Research Triangle Park-based biotechnology company Merakris Therapeutics has reached an agreement with Miracles In Sight to supply Opticyte® Amniotic Ophthalmic Repair Grafts to MIS-affiliated eye surgeons in three states.

Opticyte Amniotic Ophthalmic Repair Grafts provide a biological barrier intended to protect the corneal surface of the eye during healing and to help prevent the formation of scar tissue. The product also supports cell attachment and ingrowth and is commonly used as a supplemental biological barrier in patients treated for dry eye disease or other corneal defects. The grafts, derived from amniotic membrane, are available in different shapes and sizes to address a variety of surgical needs. Interested in learning more? Contact our business development team at businessdevelopment@miraclesinsight.org.

Past Events and Highlights:

Transplant Games of America
July 16 - July 21
The 2020 Transplant Games looked a little different this time, taking place online in 2021. Despite the hurdles that the pandemic has brought to us all, they were still able to have a successful virtual event! People from all across America participated in the events from home. Eye recipients can contact MIS to inquire about participating in next year’s games. Click here for details on the Transplant Games of America.

Wet Lab with SC Coroners
September 21 - 22

MIS staff were able to meet with Coroners and their Deputies from Charleston, Beaufort, and Colleton Counties to provide education on our recovery process. In SC, the Coroner’s Office is responsible for conducting independent investigations of deaths. MIS works closely with them to allow for a full investigation as well as eye donation. This class reviews our process for evaluation, recovery, and preparing the tissue for transplant in order to allow the Coroners to be able to make informed decisions regarding donation during their investigation.

Coroners from Beaufort and Colleton Counties participated in the wet lab for hands-on experience in anatomy and tissue preparation.
Upcoming Events

- **October 25 - 28, 2021**
  Donate Life America Conference

- **November 14, 2021**
  Inaugural Virtual Gospel Fest
  Hosted by Donate Life NC at 4pm

- **July 29 - August 3, 2022**
  Transplant Games

Contact your Professional Development Specialist to schedule an event at your facility!

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