



## For Immediate Release

### Contact info:

Rusty Kelly, Chief Marketing Officer  
415-330-0900 or 415-254-5818 (cell)  
Rusty.Kelly@SightLife.org

## Kaiser Permanente Northern California Extends Eye Tissue Agreement with SightLife

Brisbane, Calif. (May 4, 2012)—Dramatic success in increasing the number of lives transformed in Northern California through eye tissue donation and sight-restoring transplants has led Kaiser Permanente Northern California and SightLife to extend their three-year tissue procurement agreement for another three years.

“Kaiser Permanente Northern California is an acknowledged leader in the health care industry with a reputation for excellence and innovation,” said Rusty Kelly, chief marketing officer for SightLife. “We’re proud to be a partner in providing the best possible corneal tissue for transplants at these facilities, as well using the latest technology to recover tissue for transplant or research.”

SightLife’s service area includes 21 Kaiser Permanente hospitals in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ninety percent of the facilities increased their corneal tissue donation rates during the initial agreement that began in February 2009. Key results achieved include:

- 113 percent increase in the number of corneal tissue donors at Kaiser Permanente Northern California hospitals
- 118 percent increase in corneal tissue placed for transplant after being recovered at Kaiser Permanente Northern California hospitals
- Sight restored to 1,581 individuals through the generosity of Northern California eye tissue donors

### About SightLife

Founded in 1969, SightLife is the only non-profit global health organization and eye bank solely focused on eliminating corneal blindness in the U.S. and around the world. Driven by an entrepreneurial spirit as an eye bank, the organization leverages innovative technologies and best business practices to transform lives and unlock life’s possibilities for the corneal blind. SightLife works in partnership with surgeons and health organizations in more than 30 countries. In 2011, SightLife provided a record 5,233 corneas for transplant and, together with its global eye bank partners, an additional 5,622 corneas for transplant. For more information, visit [www.SightLife.org](http://www.SightLife.org).

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