

# Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital honored for excellence in Tissue Donation



Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital was awarded a “2009 Commitment and Service Award” recognizing its outstanding efforts to provide tissue donation options to donor families in 2009. Nicole Waite, Development Specialist with RTI Donor Services, presented the award to Bill Sexton, Chief Executive Officer, and Ellen Zwirlein, RNC, Director of Patient Services, as hospital employees gathered in the hospital solarium. RTI Donor Services, the hospital’s tissue recovery organization, works to enhance the lives of others by providing families the option of tissue donation and provides donation and education support to local communities.

Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital is one of only 11 Wisconsin hospitals presented an award by RTI Donor Services for 2009 efforts. The hospital was recognized for achieving a 53 percent tissue donation rate; this means that tissue was recovered from 53 percent of the hospital’s eligible donors, accounting for approximately 600 allografts.

“This outstanding accomplishment by Prairie du Chien Memorial Hospital has made a tremendous difference in the lives of others,” said Brenda Knighton, Program Director for RTI Donor Services Midwest Division. “Donated tissue gifts save lives, as well as increase strength, mobility and independence for many patients.”

RTI Donor Services is a not-for-profit tissue recovery network dedicated to serving donor families and the donation community in perpetuating the circle of life. In addition to offering families the option of tissue donation, RTI Donor Services supports their wishes as a responsible steward of human donated tissue gifts and provides family services, as well as community information and awareness. For more information about RTI Donor Services, visit [www.rtidonorservices.org](http://www.rtidonorservices.org).