

You have the power
to Donate Life.



Be an
organ, eye
and tissue
donor.

Roma, kidney recipient

You have the power to change someone's world by being an organ, eye and tissue donor.
It's about living. It's about Life.

Organ, eye and tissue transplants offer patients a new chance at healthy, productive and normal lives and return them to their families, friends and communities.

Transplantation is one of the most remarkable success stories in the history of medicine. It provides hope to thousands of people with organ failure. In addition, transplanted tissue offers hundreds of thousands of people active and renewed lives. But transplantation requires the commitment of organ, eye and tissue donors. Unfortunately, the need for donors is much greater than the number of people who actually donate.



Christine, kidney recipient

"I can do what I want now. I'm back in life, not on the sidelines."



Tyler, bone recipient

"I'm a normal teenager again. Nobody would even know I had a bone transplant if I didn't show them the scar."

Statistics on Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation

- Last year, approximately 8,000 deceased donors made possible nearly 22,000 organ transplants. In addition, there were more than 6,000 transplants from living donors.
- Over 40,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants were performed in the U.S. last year.
- Each year, lifesaving and life-enhancing tissue is provided by approximately 30,000 tissue donors.
- The need for donated organs, corneas and tissue continues to grow. More than 100,000 men, women and children currently await lifesaving organ transplants. Sadly, an average of 18 people die each day due to a lack of available organs.



www.DonateLifeTexas.org



You have the power to Donate Life.

As a donor, you can save and enhance the lives of more than 50 people. Donated organs and tissue may include the following:

Organs

heart
intestines
kidneys
liver
lungs
pancreas

Tissue

bones
corneas
heart valves
skin
tendons
veins

How the donation process works

Your commitment to donation will not interfere with your medical care. Organ, eye and tissue donation becomes an option only after all lifesaving efforts have been made. Consent for donation is confirmed, and your family is asked to participate in the process by providing your medical history.

Surgical procedures are used to recover donated organs, eyes and tissue. The body is always treated with great care, respect and dignity.

Who receives donated organs and tissue

Organs are distributed based upon medical information like blood type, body size, and tissue type matching through a national computer network operated by the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS). It is illegal to distribute organs based on non-medical information such as wealth, citizenship or celebrity status.

Tissue is distributed based upon patient need, availability and medical criteria.



Jepahl, kidney recipient

"After 7 years of dialysis, my kidney transplant restored my hope and allowed me to pursue my dreams."

Facts about Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation

FACT: People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors.

FACT: Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissue can be donated.

FACT: Tissue is needed to replace bone, tendons and ligaments lost to trauma, cancer and other diseases in order to improve strength, mobility, and independence. Corneas are needed to restore sight. Skin grafts help burn patients heal and often mean the difference between life and death. Heart valves repair cardiac defects and damage.

FACT: All major religions support organ, eye and tissue donation as an unselfish act of charity.

FACT: Donation should not delay or change funeral arrangements. An open casket funeral is possible.

FACT: There is no cost to the donor's family or estate for donation. The donor family pays only for medical expenses before death and costs associated with funeral arrangements.

FACT: In the United States, it is illegal to buy or sell organs or tissue for transplantation.

FACT: It is possible to donate life to others as a living kidney or partial liver, lung, intestine or pancreas donor.

Visit www.DonateLifeTexas.org for more information.

A mother's desire for her son to live on saved Jennifer Lewis's life. When Stephanie Johnson (right) lost her 17-year-old son Stecil Hopkins in an automobile accident, she learned that only a small percentage of organ donors are African American. She made the decision to donate Stecil's organs, and Jennifer received his liver. The two women met several months after Jennifer's surgery and have become close friends. Jennifer now speaks on behalf of organ donation, carrying Stecil's photograph with her and telling their story to everyone she meets.



Jennifer (left), liver recipient



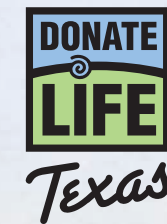
Sean, liver recipient

Sean Hanson received a liver transplant at age 17, missing just one month of high school for his surgery and recovery.

Glenda Dawson Donate Life – Texas Registry

The Texas Department of State Health Services maintains a state registry of individuals who have officially indicated their wish to donate organs, tissues and eyes. Anyone can register to be a donor.

The Registry is funded by a \$1 voluntary contribution that Texans can make when applying for or renewing their driver license or identification card, or when registering their vehicle.



The Fast Way to Register as a Donor

Find answers to your questions about organ donation on our Website.

Act now to make a life-saving difference.

Sign up to be on the official Texas donor registry.

Tell your family about your decision to donate.

www.DonateLifeTexas.org

