



Multicultural Communities in Donation and Transplantation

National Multiethnic Donor Awareness Month is a collaborative effort by national organizations to save and improve the quality of life of diverse communities by creating a positive culture for organ, eye and tissue donation.

Did You Know ?

Transplants can be successful regardless of the ethnicity of the donor and recipient. However, the chance of longer-term survival may be greater if the donor and recipient are closely matched in terms of their shared genetic background.

Prior to January 2023, Black patients were treated unfairly because of a race-based kidney function test. **A new policy is now in place** that requires hospitals to check their kidney transplant waiting lists and adjust the wait times of black patients who were previously affected by an unfair system.

This change is a crucial step toward **addressing disparities** in organ transplantation and **ensuring equitable access** to lifesaving care for all.

By December 2024, more than **14,000 Black kidney transplant candidates had their wait times adjusted** thanks to the update to the race-neutral eGFR policy.

Scan this
QR code to
learn more.

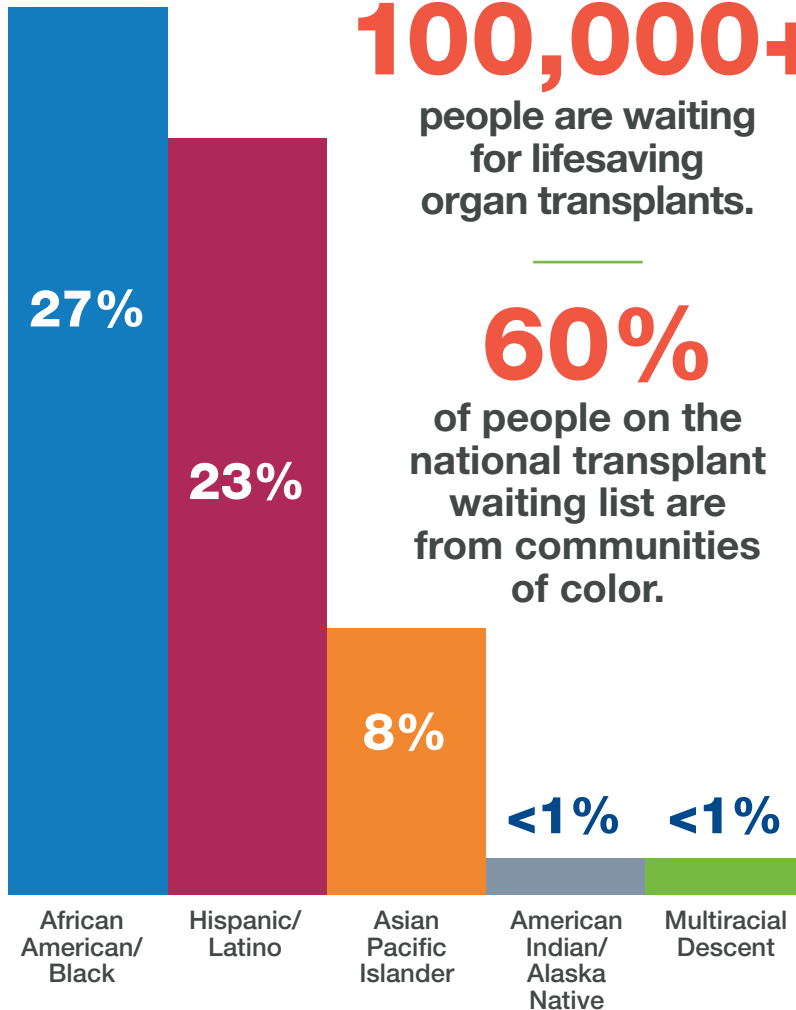


100,000+

people are waiting
for lifesaving
organ transplants.

60%

of people on the
national transplant
waiting list are
from communities
of color.



What can I do to increase organ, eye and tissue donation in my community?



Register your decision
to be a donor at
RegisterMe.org.

Tell your family and
friends about your
decision to **Donate LifeSM**.

Ask others to visit
DonateLife.net to
learn more and register.

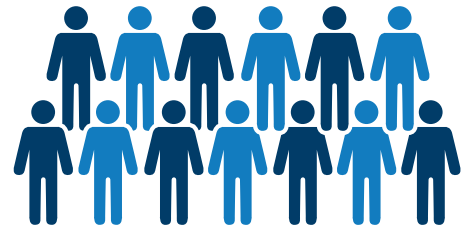
Thank you to all donors, donor families, registered donors and champions of the Donate Life cause. Support across multicultural communities contributed to a milestone year of lives saved and healed!

The Need is Great

Every **8** minutes
another person
is added to the
waiting list.



13
people die each
day while waiting
for a transplant.



Deceased Donation



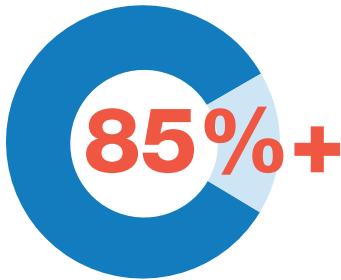
1
Organ,
Eye and
Tissue
Donor

Saves
up to
8
lives

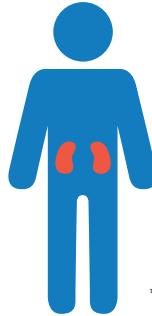
Restores
sight to
2
people

Heals the lives
of more than
75
people

Living Donation



of patients
waiting are
in need of
a kidney.



Living donors can
provide a kidney
or a portion of
their liver to a
waiting patient.*

*Living donation is not included in your donor registration.

Did You Know?

The liver is the only
organ that grows back!
The donated part of the
liver regrows in 4 months.

[Learn more at DonateLife.net](https://www.donatelife.net)



Top Frequently Asked Questions

Does registering as a donor change my patient care?

No, your life always comes first. Doctors work hard to save every patient's life. Donation does not become a possibility until all lifesaving efforts have been exhausted.

Does donation affect funeral plans?

Funeral arrangements of your choice are possible, including a viewing. Through the entire donation process the body is treated with care and respect. Following donation, funeral arrangements can continue as planned.

Does my religion support organ, eye and tissue donation?

All major religions support donation as a final act of compassion and generosity.

Does my social and/or financial status play any part in whether or not I will receive an organ if I ever need one?

No. A national system matches available organs from the donor with people on the waiting list based on blood type, body size, how sick they are, donor distance, tissue type and time on the list. Race, gender, income, celebrity and social status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression does NOT prevent someone from registering as an organ donor.



Data from Donate Life America EOY 2023 Registry Overview Report, and Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), as of January 2025. National Tissue Recovery through Utilization Survey (NTRUS) AATB.org., 2022 Eye Banking Statistical Report. Washington, DC: Eye Bank Association of America; 2023. OPTN/SRTR 2023 Annual Data Report. Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients. Donate LifeSM is a registered service mark of Donate Life America. © 2025 Donate Life America