



## National Donor Sabbath

### *Donation and Transplantation Fact Sheet*



- On average, a single organ and tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of up to 50 people.
- Approximately 28,465 patients began new lives last year thanks to organ transplants.
- A living donor can provide a kidney or a portion of their liver, lung, pancreas or intestine.
- Almost two-thirds of all living donors are relatives of their recipient, most commonly siblings.
- The number of unrelated living donors has more than tripled since 1998.
- To learn more about living donation visit [www.transplantliving.org/livingdonation](http://www.transplantliving.org/livingdonation).
- People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. Your medical condition at the time of death will determine what organs and tissue can be donated.
- 90% of Americans say they support donation, but only 30% know the essential steps to take to be a donor.
- Sadly, an average of 18 patients die every day while waiting, simply because the organ they needed did not become available in time.
- On average, 134 people are added to the nation's organ transplant waiting list each day—one every 11 minutes.
- More than 108,000 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant in the U.S.
- 35% of patients awaiting kidney transplants are African American.
- All major religions support organ, eye and tissue donation as an unselfish act of charity.
- Approximately 42,606 sight-restoring corneal transplants were performed in the U.S. last year.
- Approximately 1,000,000 (one million) tissue transplants are performed annually.
- Visit [www.mwtn.org](http://www.mwtn.org) to find out how to become a donor in your state.
- Or, just call Midwest Transplant Network at 913-262-1668 or 1-888-744-4531, or e-mail [info@mwtn.org](mailto:info@mwtn.org)

References: United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) [www.UNOS.org](http://www.UNOS.org)  
Donate Life America [www.donatelife.net](http://www.donatelife.net)  
Eye Bank Association of America [www.restoresight.org](http://www.restoresight.org)