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For more information, scan the QR code



Columbus, OH, Sep 24, 2021 - With more than 3,000 Ohioans waiting today for a lifesaving organ transplant, the need for more registered organ, eye and tissue donors is a serious health concern. To educate and unite Ohioans around the solution, Donate Life Ohio, a coalition of the state's organ, eye and tissue recovery agencies, will host “Don’t Wait, Save 8” on October 8 – Ohio’s online donation registration drive encouraging citizens to register as donors.

The vast majority of the five million people in Ohio who have registered their decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor have done so during a visit to the BMV. The “Don’t Wait, Save 8” message encourages Ohioans to take action and register their decision to save lives immediately online instead of waiting until their next visit to the BMV. This one-day virtual donation registration drive also aims to inspire conversations about the impact donation can have on family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, their community and fellow Ohioans.

The inspiration for the date came from important facts about organ donation:

- **10** – Every 10 minutes, someone is added to the national transplant waiting list for a lifesaving organ transplant.
- **8** – One organ donor can save up to eight lives.

“Thousands of Ohioans are saved and healed each year thanks to the generosity of organ, eye and tissue donors. Still, there are more than three thousand people in our state today waiting for their lifesaving transplant,” said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. “Don’t Wait, Save 8 is a statewide registration effort designed to inspire action, awareness, unity and momentum on one special day in the effort to save lives through donation. Together, we can make a difference for those in need of a lifesaving organ, including fellow Ohioans waiting for a second chance at life.”

In April 2021, Governor DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine [recorded a public service announcement](#) encouraging all Ohioans to register as donors. Their daughter Becky was a tissue and cornea donor in 1993 and healed countless others through her decision to be a donor.

“Don’t Wait, Save 8” is a collaboration of Donate Life Ohio and The Second Chance Trust Fund, established to support projects that bring awareness about the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation throughout Ohio. The Second Chance Trust Fund is managed by the Ohio Department of Health and is funded by Ohioans who donate \$1 to organ, eye and tissue donor awareness while at the BMV.

To register your donation decision, please visit www.registerme.org/dontwait.

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About Donate Life Ohio: Donate Life Ohio is a coalition of the state's organ, eye and tissue recovery agencies dedicated to educating Ohioans about the need for registered donors and inspiring them to join the Ohio Donor Registry. These include Lifeline of Ohio in Columbus, Lifebanc in Cleveland, Life Connection of Ohio in Dayton and Toledo, LifeCenter in Cincinnati, Central Ohio Lion’s Eye Bank, Cincinnati Eye Bank, Community Tissue Services, Eversight, Lions Eye Bank of West Central Ohio and the Minority Organ and Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP) in Cleveland.

The Second Chance Trust Fund was founded in 1997 to support projects that raise awareness about the importance of organ, eye and tissue donation throughout Ohio. Establishing the Ohio Donor Registry and supporting the coalition of organ, eye and tissue recovery agencies that comprise Donate Life Ohio is one of those projects.