

# Fact Sheet

## Donate Life Ohio



- The national waiting list for organ transplants is rising at an alarming rate, with more than 105,000 individuals currently on the list.
- 57.5% of Ohioans are registered organ, eye and tissue donors as of September 2021.
- In Ohio, more than 3,100 people are waiting for an organ transplant, and hundreds more await tissue and corneal transplants.
- Approximately 20 times each day a man, woman or child dies for lack of an available organ. Once every 48 hours, an Ohioan dies waiting. Thousands more are waiting for tissue and corneal transplants.
- **In 2020, Donate Life Ohio facilitated a record number of donations for the third consecutive year**
  - \* More than 500 Ohioans shared the gift of life through organ donation.
  - \* Those generous gifts resulted in more than 1,400 lifesaving organ transplants.
  - \* In addition, more than 4,000 Ohioans shared the gift of healing and sight through tissue and cornea donation.
- In the United States, 39,035 organ transplants were performed in 2020 and more than 1.75 million tissue transplants were performed.
- Who is 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.
- A single donor potentially can save the lives of eight people and restore the lives of more than 75 by donating vital organs (heart, two lungs, two kidneys, liver, pancreas and small bowel) and tissue (corneas, bone, fascia, skin, veins and heart valves).

### How Does An Ohioan Register As A Donor?

Ohioans may declare their wish to become a donor by registering online through [www.donatelifehio.org](http://www.donatelifehio.org). Additionally, individuals may declare their decision when at the BMV, or by completing a Donor Registry Enrollment Form by calling 800-525-5667.

The Ohio Donor Registry is an individual's first person authorization to donate the gift of life at the time of their death, if possible, through organ, eye and tissue donation.

Donate Life Ohio encourages everyone to talk to their loved ones about their donation decision. When the next-of-kin knows their loved one's decision at the time of death, it is one of the most helpful steps a grieving family can take to deal with its loss.

**\*\*Additional information may be obtained at [donatelifehio.org](http://donatelifehio.org)\*\***