

Donate Life Month



This is the month of looking at the issue donation of organs, eyes or tissue to others for transplant and giving life to others. An organ donation can save up to 8 lives, donation of eyes can give sight to two people and donation of tissue can save up to 75 people. Of the organ transplants, 82% of those waiting for an organ transplant are waiting for a kidney transplant.

We often think of heart or kidney transplants but do not think of all the organs and tissue that can be transplanted.

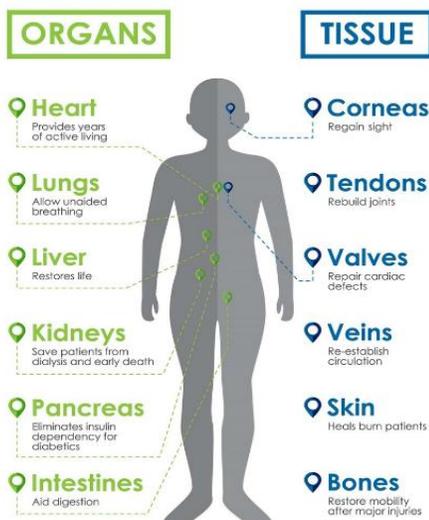
The neglected organs we do not think about are the liver, pancreas, or intestines. The tissue we do not think about are tendons, valves, veins and skin. We think of bone marrow but not the bones themselves.

So in Minnesota, the organization most involved in organ/tissue donation is Life Source. From their website, who is Life Source:

We are a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives through organ, eye and

tissue donation in the Upper Midwest. It's our privilege to serve the 7 million people who live in communities across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and portions of western Wisconsin.

We are dedicated to working with our hospital and community partners to support donor families, manage the donation process and educate our communities to create a culture of donation.



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This topic is best known to the general community by agreeing to donate and having this placed in red on your driver's license which reads "Donor". These decisions are personal and deals around death and survival. So one of the first questions addressed is will this mean less aggressive action by the medical team to save my life. The answer is " no". Life Source explains, "If you are taken to the hospital after an accident or injury, it is the hospital's number one priority to save YOUR life. Your status as a donor is **not even considered** until every effort has been made to try to save your life."(bold added). All faiths accept donation as a generous act of caring. This is totally free to the family and it is a decision which can benefit up to 75 persons from one individual. If you do not make the decision, your family may be asked about donation and it is best if they are aware of your view of organ donation.

If you wish to donate, it is pretty simple.

1. When you apply or update your driver's permit or license or state ID
2. On line at <https://www.life-source.org/donation/> which has a box in the upper righthand side of the screen to register.

This site is where this information is from and there is much more information on this site.

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