



You have the power to donate life



A Donate Life organization

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Record Year for Life-Saving Organ Transplants More People Giving the Greatest Gift of All...the Gift of Life

OAKLAND, CA – The **California Transplant Donor Network** passed the most significant benchmark in its 18-year history – 1000 lives saved in 2005 through organ transplantation. The Central and Northern California organ recovery organization is one of the nation's leaders in several other lifesaving metrics as well.

How did the Transplant Network achieve such success?

In short, the Transplant Network was able to accomplish the results by improving its medical management techniques and by providing thorough supportive care for donor families.

“Our first focus is on the family,” says Phyllis Weber, CEO of the Transplant Network. “Even in times of extreme sadness families find it within their hearts to give life to others. They tell us they get some consolation and comfort knowing they saved lives by choosing to donate.”

Collaborating with Donor Hospitals and Transplant Centers:

Success can also be credited to the *organ donation breakthrough collaborative*, a Department of Health and Human Services initiative which develops and shares best practices among donor hospitals, organ recovery organizations, and transplant centers. In fact, the Transplant Network ranks third in the county in organs transplanted per donor as a result of the solid working relationships it has established with the medical community. This translates directly into saving more lives.

“By sharing and learning from others, we have the highest conversion rate in California.”
(Conversion rates measure the effectiveness of organ donor organizations.)

Phyllis Weber continues: “We aggressively pursue every possible opportunity for donation and then strive to find a match for every organ. We’re about saving lives.”

Other noteworthy life-saving accomplishments:

- § 1st in the nation in lungs transplanted
- § 2nd in the nation in hearts transplanted
- § 3rd in the nation in livers transplanted
- § 4th in the nation in kidneys transplanted

Giving to the Community:

Another way the Transplant Network gives to the community is by coordinating the local *Give Thanks. Give Life.* campaign. This program centers on end-of-year season giving, commencing with National Donor Sabbath and continuing through Thanksgiving and the end-of-year holidays of Christmas, Kwanzaa, and Hanukkah.

“Americans know the importance of giving thanks during the holidays,” David Heneghan, Public Affairs Manager for the Transplant Network, explained. “*The Give Thanks. Give Life.* program encourages everyone to spend a few minutes during the holidays talking to their family about giving the gift of life.”

What can you do?

To get the facts or get involved, go to www.ctdn.org. To sign-up to become a donor, go to www.donateLIFECalifornia.org.

California Transplant Donor Network

The California Transplant Donor Network saves and improves lives by facilitating organ and tissue donation for transplantation. The Transplant Network helps 160 hospitals in 40 Northern and Central California and Northern Nevada counties offer the option of organ and tissue donation to families whose loved ones have died, coordinates deceased organ recovery and placement, and provides public education with the hope that every resident will become a donor. It is federally designated as this area’s organ recovery organization. For more information, visit ctdn.org or call 1-888-570-9400.