Forming a Donation Committee

Increasing organ and tissue donation rates requires constant monitoring of your hospital’s donation process. To ensure a donation process that clearly defines roles and responsibilities and provides a means for feedback, Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network recommends that your hospital form a Donation Committee with representation from all relevant staff. Partnering with Gift of Hope, your committee can develop a system that provides for ongoing staff education, as well as early identification, timely referral, helpful family discussion and ongoing support to ensure a successful donation process for all potential organ and tissue donors.

Your committee’s success hinges on including those individuals with authority to effect change and staff having familiarity with day-to-day operations and processes. To ensure appropriate management and staff representation, Gift of Hope recommends that you consider the following departments/areas when forming your Donation Committee:

- Anesthesia
- Critical Care
- Ethics
- Hospital Education
- ICU—MDs and RNs
- Operations
- Pastoral Care
- Quality Management
- Respiratory Therapy
- Risk Management
- Surgical Services
- Gift of Hope Hospital Liaison

Examples of Donation Committee activities include:

- Establishing a culture of accountability
- Reviewing and recommending changes to policies related to organ and tissue donation
- Ensuring compliance with policies and state/federal legislation and regulations
- Monitoring outcomes and performance and identifying opportunities for improvement
- Providing education in collaboration with Gift of Hope
- Working with your hospital’s Gift of Hope liaison to promote donation-related events, e.g., National Donate Life Month

For more information on Donation Committee scope and function, contact your Gift of Hope hospital liaison at 630/758-2600.