

Honoring Donation in Our Community HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



National Hispanic Heritage Month, which is observed Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, honors the contributions Hispanics have made to American society and culture and celebrates our Mexican and Central American neighbors who commemorate their independence in September and October.

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Gift of Hope **honors and recognizes the generosity of Hispanic organ and tissue donors and their families**, and underscores the growing need for and importance of Hispanic organ and tissue donors. We also celebrate Hispanic transplant recipients, medical professionals and partners who help make donation and transplant possible.

Did you know?

Transplants can be successful regardless of the ethnicity of the donor and recipient. However, the chance of longer-term survival may be greater if the donor and recipient are closely matched in terms of their shared genetic background.

The Need is Great

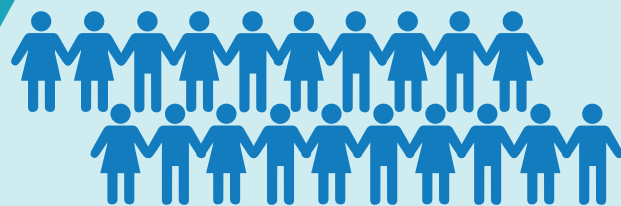
As of July 2020, there are

22,689 | 797

Hispanics on the transplant waiting list



Every **10** minutes another person is added to the waiting list.



20 people die each day because the organs they need are not donated in time.

NATIONALLY

IN ILLINOIS

2019 STATISTICS

ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Organ
Save up to
8 lives

Eye
Restore sight to
2 people

Tissue
Heal more than
75 people

6,707

330

Transplant recipients were Hispanic

1,770

63

Organ donors were Hispanic

6,371

215

Organs recovered from Hispanic patients were from deceased donors



Data from Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) as of July 2020.

Thank you to all donors, donor families, registered donors, transplant recipients, medical professionals and partners for your continued support in increasing awareness for diverse organ and tissue donation.

Register to become an Organ and Tissue Donor at giftofhope.org

Myths vs. Facts

MYTH	TRUTH
The doctors will not try to save my life if they know I am a donor	When you are sick or injured and admitted to a hospital, the one and only priority is to save your life. The truth is that the medical teams that try to save lives are different from the ones that do transplants. The transplant surgeons are called only after all resources to save the life of the patient have been exhausted.
A patient can recover from brain death	Patients can recover from a coma, but not brain death. Coma is different than brain death. Brain death is final.
Donation will disfigure my body after death	When you donate your organs or tissue, it is done with the utmost care, dignity and respect. The body is never disfigured and donation does not delay any funeral arrangements.
Non-residents cannot donate or receive organs in the United States	Non-residents (who do not live in the US or are not US citizens) can donate and receive organs in the US. Organs are awarded to patients based on medical necessity, not citizenship.
I don't think my religion supports organ donation	Most major religions in the United States consider donation as the final act of love and generosity toward others.

**Honoring Donation
in Our Community**

**HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH**

giftofhope[®]
Organ & Tissue
Donor Network



Registering as an organ and tissue donor is an opportunity to leave **a legacy and offer hope for life** to endure. Please consider **registering to become an organ and tissue donor** at **Giftofhope.org** or by texting **COMMIT** or **REGALO** to **51555**.