



MIDWEST
TRANSPLANT
Give Hope. Share Life.®



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

ABOUT MIDWEST TRANSPLANT NETWORK

Midwest Transplant Network has been connecting lives through organ donation since 1973. As the federally designated not-for-profit organ procurement organization (OPO) for Kansas and the western two-thirds of Missouri, Midwest Transplant Network provides services including organ procurement; surgical tissue and eye recovery; laboratory testing and 24-hour rapid response for referrals from hospital partners. Midwest Transplant Network ranks in the top 10% in the country among OPOs, which reflects the organization's quality, professionalism and excellence in partnerships throughout the region.

MISSION

Saving lives
by honoring
the gift of organ
and tissue donation
with dignity
and compassion

VISION

Leading organ
and tissue
donation through
excellence,
quality
and partnerships

On the cover: The butterfly is a symbol donor families have adopted to represent change as well as new life and hope. Wearing her "Give Hope. Share Life." bracelet, Mylene Pankratz Serpan recently released butterflies to honor her loved one and their decision to give the gift of life.



ADAPTING AMID UNCERTAINTY

We started 2020 with high hopes and expectations for the excellent work our teams could achieve: pursuing more complex donors, expanding Kansas and Missouri first person authorization (FPA) rates and further strengthening our partnerships with hospitals, transplant centers and community organizations. Then, the coronavirus pandemic hit, throwing a major wrench into our carefully developed processes.

Yet despite the many challenges presented to every department and individual throughout our organization, we adapted. Our hospital partners fully embraced us, working with us, in several hospitals, to achieve record donation rates. We accomplished a strong donation authorization rate, even when we could not talk to families face to face. We developed videos to support donor families through notable times, such as the holiday season. And we did not just rise to the occasion; we found ways to thrive, recovering organs and tissues for transplant from more donor heroes than ever before.



Watch our 2020 year in review video: mwtm.org/2020-YIR



KARI ALEJANDRE | Heart Recipient

Kari Alejandre's heart transplant not only gave her a second chance at life, but it also gave her the opportunity to create life. Kari's son, Paolo, was one of about 70 people worldwide at the time born to a woman with a transplanted heart. Two decades after she first received the gift of life through donation, Kari needed a second transplant. Now, Kari can watch Paolo grow, thanks to the generosity of two selfless donor heroes and their brave families.

Pictured: Mary Ann Bjorgaard (far left), mother of Kari's first heart donor; two-time heart recipient Kari Alejandre; Kari's husband, Adolfo Alejandre; and their children, Bella and Paolo Alejandre



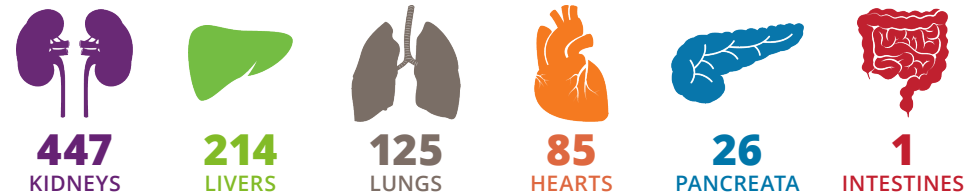
Read more stories like Kari's: mwtm.org/recipient-stories

ORGAN

Thanks to MTN's commitment to pursuing all potential donors and strong support from our hospital and community partners, MTN recovered organs from a record number of donors in 2020, topping our previous record set in 2019 by 17%.



ORGANS TRANSPLANTED FROM LOCAL DONORS



EXPANDING HORIZONS TO REDUCE THE WAITLIST

As MTN looks to grow the number of lifesaving and life-enhancing organ, eye and tissue transplants we facilitate, we have expanded our donation after circulatory death (DCD) efforts. DCD is a burgeoning practice, requiring extreme support and coordination from hospital staff in caring for and recovering organs from these donor heroes, as well as additional family education. In 2020, we recovered organs from 93 DCD donors, an increase of 50% vs. 2019, whereas organ procurement organizations nationally saw an 18.6% increase.

TISSUE

While 2020 brought many challenges, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, our Tissue Services department increased the number of donors from whom we recovered tissues by 81. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we recovered 25,677 tissue grafts for our partner MTF Biologics alone. This tissue is frequently used in orthopedic surgeries and also supports wound care treatments and joint reconstruction.



TISSUES RECOVERED FROM LOCAL DONORS



VASCULAR RECOVERY RECOGNITION

CryoLife, one of our tissue partners, announced that MTN is their top recovery partner for achieving the lowest aortoiliac artery error rate for 2020 at 3.2%. This graft is truly lifesaving and extremely rare, and this recognition illustrates our Tissue Services department's commitment to excellence.



SANDY BARKER | Tissue Donor

After organ donation saved the life of Sandy Barker's youngest grandson, she joined the organ, eye and tissue donor registry. Years later, at age 81, Sandy became the first tissue donor in our service area over the age of 75. Her donation provided life-enhancing tissues. Since its inception, we have continued our "golden" tissue donor recovery program across our service area. From June through December 2020, 163 selfless donors in this category provided 352 much-needed tissues to patients in need.



Read more stories like Sandy's: mwtn.org/donor-stories



CLOSE COLLABORATION LEADS TO LIFESAVING TRANSPLANT

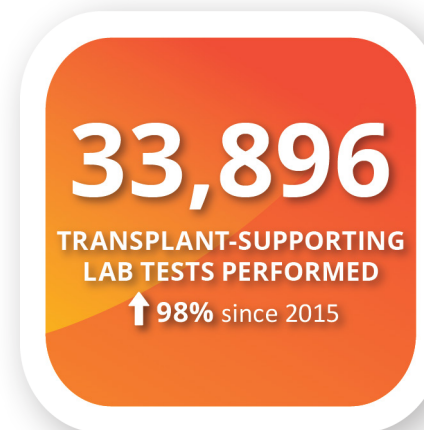
Strong partnerships with hospitals and transplant centers are vital to MTN's success. Our Laboratory team works closely with our transplant programs to help transplant higher-risk patients. Recently, our Laboratory staff members worked closely with The University of Kansas Health System to find a matching heart for a high-risk, blood group B patient with 98% calculated panel reactive antibody (cPRA). This meant that the patient only had 2% chance of finding a compatible match within her blood group's donor population in the US. After initially being evaluated for transplant in July, the patient's condition worsened in December. At the request of The University of Kansas Health System, prior to listing the patient, our Laboratory staff members performed a series of "surrogate" virtual crossmatch evaluations to determine the patient's chance for receiving transplant offers. We determined that, while the patient may receive offers, the likelihood she would have a low-risk offer was very low. So, in order for her to receive a transplant, she may have to implement a more aggressive post-transplant monitoring plan. With this information in mind, the patient was listed as status 1 (medically urgent). Within the first couple days of listing, she received eight organ offers, out of which seven were high risk with multiple strong antibodies, and one was moderate risk. The transplant program decided to accept this offer, and with a well-thought-out risk management plan, the patient received a heart transplant. This challenging case involved thorough and regular communication between MTN and The University of Kansas Health System, and thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, this patient is doing well.



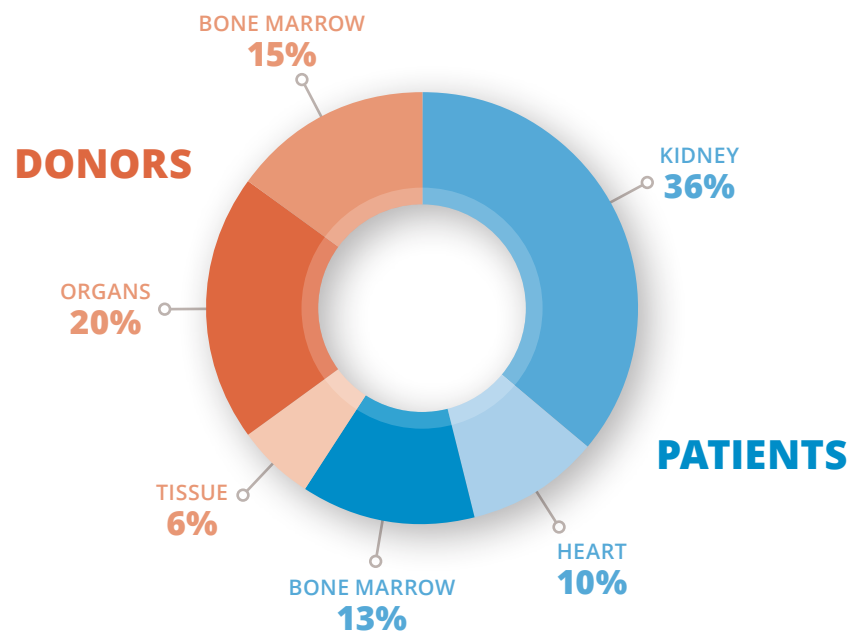
Learn more about MTN's laboratory: mwtm.org/lab

LABORATORY

Our full-service histocompatibility laboratory provides compatibility testing for organ donors and those awaiting transplants. In 2020, 41% of the tests we performed were for donation cases, and 59% were for patients awaiting lifesaving transplants.



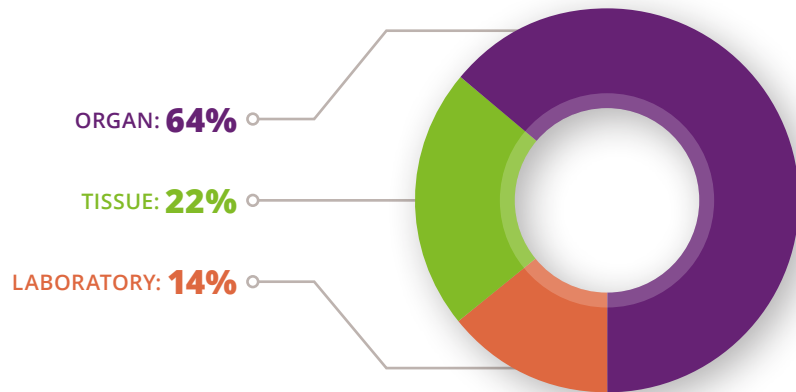
— BREAKDOWN PERFORMED FOR DONORS AND PATIENTS —



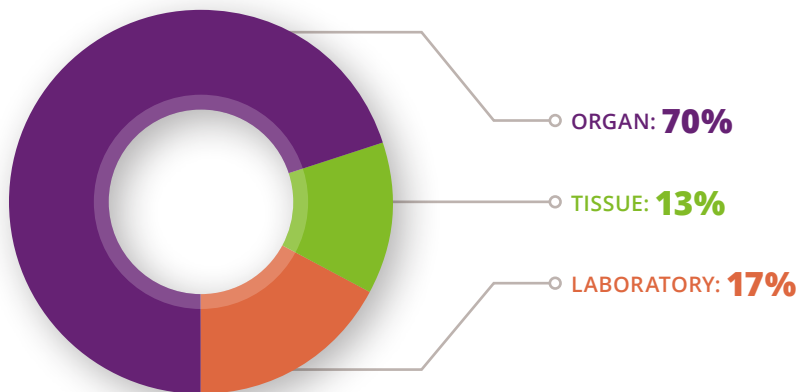
AVIATION AND FINANCE

Our Aviation department enables us to quickly transport our staff members and transplant teams. In 2020, our team of four full-time and four part-time pilots flew 669 times to ensure the safe and efficient transportation of our staff and lifesaving organs. Due to the 150,000-square-mile area MTN services, we are one of only a few OPOs that have an aviation department. In the late 1980s, the Federal Aviation Administration met with MTN's then-Executive Director, Larry Kist, to discuss the need for MTN to buy its own aircraft to maximize the welfare of the teams. At that time, charter aviation services were not readily available or reliable.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



ENABLING SPECIALIZED ORGAN DONOR CARE



In November 2020, we began the remodeling process on MTN's forthcoming Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit. When the new unit opens in 2022, with the donor family's permission, we will transfer authorized organ donors to our Westwood, Kansas, headquarters building, where our team will provide specialized care and assist transplant teams to recover organs. By instituting this improvement, we will alleviate demands on hospital operating rooms and intensive care unit beds.



Read breaking updates and announcements: mwtm.org/news



JA'LIYAH MOORE | Tissue Donor

When Christine Preset's beloved granddaughter, Ja'Liyah Moore, unexpectedly died and graciously became a tissue donor, her advocacy for organ, eye and tissue donation became deeply personal. "As a DMV employee, I am always advocating for organ donation to our customers and providing them with education about donation," Christine said. "Some are scared, as they hear a lot of rumors. Now, due to my personal experience, I can tell them that a lot of what they hear is false information."



Access professional partner resources: mwtm.org/partners

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

At the beginning of 2020, our Family Services, Hospital Services and Community Education teams had numerous events and educational opportunities planned for donor families, as well as our hospital, community, and licensing, treasury and Department of Revenue partners. Instead of moving forward with many of those in-person events, due to the pandemic, our teams quickly adapted to provide robust virtual options. From video calls to social media to video presentations, we reached our key stakeholders and supported donor families from afar. We even found creative ways to dispel common myths about organ, eye and tissue donation, such as producing a seven-video series highlighting several major religions' views on donation.

OUTREACH MILESTONES



Launched fully redesigned website: mwtm.org



Reached 16,000+ people through virtual Donate Life Legacy Walk



Offered complimentary T-shirts advocating for donation to all licensing, treasury and Department of Revenue office staff members



Grew social media followers by 1,954 people across our four primary platforms — an 8% increase over 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2020 GOVERNING BOARD

OFFICERS

Chair: A. Michael Borkon, MD (*Saint Luke's Health System*)

Vice Chair: Barbara MacArthur, RN, MN (*The University of Kansas Health System*)

Secretary: Stevan Whitt, MD (*University of Missouri Health Care*)

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Walter Andrews, MD, FAAP, FACS (*Children's Mercy Kansas City*), Thomas H. Estep, MD (*Wichita, Kansas*), Gilbert Ross Jr., MD (*University of Missouri Health Care*)



MTN'S LEADERSHIP TEAM

C-SUITE EXECUTIVES

President/Chief Executive Officer: Jan Finn, RN, MSN

Chief Financial Officer: Jim Boyd

Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer: Tina Kirsch

Vice President & Chief Operating Officer: Lori Markham, RN, MSN, CCRN-K

Pictured, left to right: Midwest Transplant Network President/Chief Executive Officer Jan Finn, RN, MSN, and Governing Board Chair A. Michael Borkon, MD, Co-Director of Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute and Surgical Director of Heart Transplant at Saint Luke's Hospital



Learn more about MTN's leadership: mwtm.org/leadership



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