



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Becky Storm
bstorm@mwtn.org
913-277-8651

Kansas City Organ Donor to Be Honored in 2022 Rose Parade®

**Artwork will honor area organ donor during nationally televised
New Year's Day celebration**

WESTWOOD, Kan. (Dec. 30, 2021) — Midwest Transplant Network (MTN) will honor 19-year-old organ donor Christopher Hutson Jr of Lee's Summit, Missouri, in the 2022 Rose Parade.

Media personnel can interview members of Hutson's family and representatives from MTN remotely in the days leading up to or after the parade, which will air at 10 a.m. CST on Jan. 1, 2022. Media assets are available [here](#).

After he was killed in a 2017 road rage shooting, 19-year-old Hutson donated seven lifesaving organs to recipients in need. Hutson's parents and two younger brothers will attend the parade to see his portrait — made entirely from organic materials — displayed on the Donate Life Rose Parade® float, "Courage to Hope."

All Rose Parade floats must be covered with flowers or other natural materials, such as leaves, seeds or bark. The Donate Life Rose Parade float each year features numerous "floragraphs," which replicate photographs but are made entirely of organic materials, remembering donors from around the country.

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. For more information, visit mwtn.org.

###

Editor's note: The float's rendering is below. Based on this viewpoint, memorial floragraphs will be on the left side of the float among the stylized Venetian colonnades.

