



Midwest Transplant Network Quick Facts for Media

February 2025

About Us

Midwest Transplant Network has been saving lives in Kansas and western Missouri since 1973. As a federally certified, not-for-profit organ procurement organization (OPO), MTN works with organ, eye, and tissue donors, their families, hospitals, and other professional partners to extend legacies, provide hope and give life. Together with its partners, volunteer Ambassadors and Green Ribbon Champions, MTN is dedicated to increasing awareness and education about the need for organ, eye and tissue donation.

MTN's mission: Saving lives by honoring the gift of organ and tissue donation with dignity and compassion.

MTN's vision: Leading organ and tissue donation through excellence, quality and partnerships.

Midwest Transplant Network provides services such as:

- Organ procurement
- Laboratory testing to assist clinicians with donor management before recovering organs, including blood count testing, urinalysis, basic chemistry panels and more.
- Surgical tissue and eye recovery in our Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit, a state-of-the-art suite at our headquarters in Westwood, Kansas.
- A 24/7 communications center dedicated to providing rapid responses to referrals from our hospital partners in Kansas and western Missouri.

2024: An Impactful Year for Saving Lives

Through MTN, organ, eye and tissue donor heroes and their families saved and enhanced lives:

- **399** donor heroes shared the gift of life, resulting in **1,075*** lifesaving organ transplants. (**Excluding organs donated for research*)
- **1,447** cornea and tissue donor heroes saved and enhanced lives.
- MTN's lab performed **40,075** transplant-supporting tests ranging from blood counts, urinalysis, basic chemistry panels and more.
- In its second full year of service, MTN's [Donor Care and Surgical Recovery Unit](#) (DCU) **cared for 131 donor hero patients** resulting in **430 lifesaving transplants**.



Highly Ranked OPO

MTN consistently performs in the top 10% in the country among 56 OPOs, according to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The result of MTN's lifesaving work can be seen every day in the communities served and in the recipients whose lives have been enriched by the generosity of organ, eye and tissue donors.

Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation Facts

- The demand for organ, eye and tissue donation vastly exceeds the number of registered organ donors.
- **One organ donor can save as many as eight lives and improve the lives of up to 100 more people through eye and tissue donation.**
- Organs that can be donated include the **heart, kidneys, liver, lungs, pancreas and small intestine.**
- **Everyone can be a registered organ donor, regardless of age or medical history.**
- **Committing to organ donation never interferes with medical care.** If you are sick or injured, saving your life is always top priority.
- **Most major religions support organ and tissue donation as a final act of generosity.**
- **Registering as an organ donor** takes less than one minute at the DMV or ShareLifeMidwest.com.

Living Donation

- When patients have a living donor, they do not need to wait on the transplant list – a wait that could take several years.
- Living donation helps more than just one person because it reduces the number of people on the waiting list, making organs available sooner for those who do not have living donors.
- Research shows that transplant recipients who receive an organ from a living donor often experience better outcomes, both in terms of how long the organ lasts and how well the body reacts to the organ.
- Many living donors describe very positive emotional experiences when they see and think about the impact of their life-saving gift.



In MTN's Region

- Nearly **2,000 people in Missouri** and **500 people in Kansas** are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants. **Among them, more than 2,000 need kidney transplants.**
- In Missouri, approximately 89% of adults are registered organ donors.
- In Kansas, approximately 90% of adults are registered organ donors.

In the United States

- Nearly **104,000 men, women and children** are currently waiting for lifesaving organ transplants. Tens of thousands more are waiting for tissue or corneal transplants.
- On average, **17 people die each day because of a lack of available organs for transplants.**
- **Every 8 minutes**, another person is added to the waiting list.
- 95% of U.S. adults are in favor of being an organ donor, but **only 60% are registered.**
- For more up-to-date information, go to *organdonor.gov*.

Online Resources

Midwest Transplant Network	https://mwtn.org/
Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network	https://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/
Donate Life America	https://donatelife.net/
Local Donor Registry	ShareLifeMidwest.com
Association for Multicultural Affairs in Transplantation	https://www.amat1.org/
Association of Organ Procurement Organizations	https://aopo.org/

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