

UNDERSTANDING ORGAN DONATION ATTITUDES IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Southwest Transplant Alliance commissioned a survey of adults within the organization's designated service area to reveal the attitudes, beliefs and misconceptions surrounding organ donation.

Organ donation is widely supported

say they support organ donation

94%

84%

say they are very likely or somewhat likely to agree that a family member be an organ donor

Myths and misconceptions are prevalent

2/3 of survey respondents have heard common myths about organ donation

42%

say they have heard that some religions forbid donation

FACT: Nearly all major world religions have issued statements in support of organ donation.

38%

believe people with medical conditions cannot register to donate

FACT: Anyone can register to be an organ donor, there are no age or medical restrictions to register.

15%

have heard that doctors won't try to save your life if you're a donor

FACT: Doctors will do everything to save a patient's life. Only after all efforts are exhausted does a separate organization evaluate for donation.

Race and ethnicity plays a role in perceptions

Myths are more prevalent in African American and Hispanic groups, leading to lower registration rates.



African Americans are **3X** more likely to have heard the myth that families incur a bill for donation compared to non-African Americans.



47% of Hispanic respondents have heard the myth that only healthy people can donate, compared to **31%** of non-Hispanics.



Nearly a **third** of African American respondents believe the myth that race plays a part in determining whether someone receives a transplant.

TIME TO ACT

THE NEED: There are 113,000+ people in the U.S. awaiting a lifesaving transplant – including 10,000 in Texas. For many, that gift will not come in time to save their lives. 20 people die each day in the U.S. on the waiting list.

THE SOLUTION: Register to be a donor, and share your decision with your family.

- Only 52% of respondents say they've shared their wishes with their family
- Less than half of adults are registered to be donors.

Register your decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor at DonateLifeTexas.org

Where Respondents Have Learned About Organ Donation

