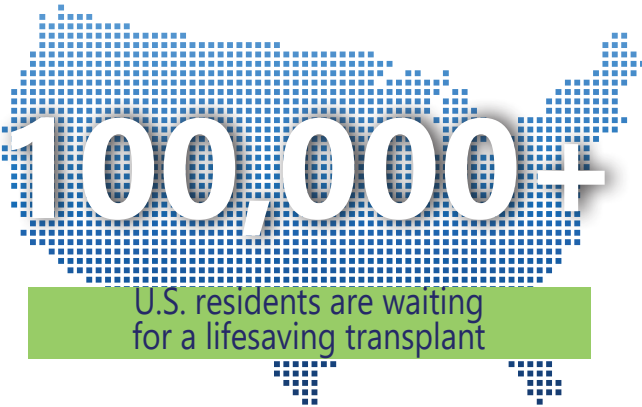


The critical need for donation



- Every 10 minutes someone is added to the national organ transplant waiting list.
- On average, 20 people die waiting for an organ transplant each day.
- In 2020, more than 39,000 organ transplants were performed in the United States.

Texas Statistics

- There are more than 10,000 people on the waiting list in Texas.
- In 2020, there were 1,632 donors (1,006 deceased / 626 living)
- In 2020, there were 3,664 transplants (2,989 deceased / 675 living)

What is an OPO?

An OPO is a not-for-profit organization responsible for recovering organs from deceased donors for transplantation. There are 57 OPOs in the United States and 3 OPOs in Texas. Each OPO is mandated by the federal government to perform organ and tissue recoveries within their designated service areas. Each OPO partners with hospitals, Medical Examiners, Justice of the Peace, Funeral Homes, & Law Enforcement to ensure the mission of saving lives is accomplished.

National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) Position

The National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) and the American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) both strongly believe that mutual support and recognition of the roles each organization and its members play in the donation process are imperative in order for any of these best practices to succeed. To learn more about the NFDA and AATB position on best practices for cooperation, visit organ.org/funeralhomes



Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA) is a nonprofit organization based in Dallas, Texas, that saves lives by fulfilling the gifts of organ and tissue donation. Founded in 1974, STA has facilitated more than 35,000 organs for recovery and enhanced the lives of tens of thousands of people through tissue recovery. STA is among the largest of 57 federally designated, nonprofit organ procurement organizations (OPOs) in the United States, serving communities in North Texas, Beaumont, Bryan/College Station, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Galveston, Midland/Odessa, Temple, Tyler and Wichita Falls.

organ.org/funeralhomes
8190 Manderville Ln. | Dallas, TX 75231
stainfo@organ.org



Organ and Tissue Donation in Texas

A Resource Guide for
Funeral Home Professionals

The Texas Uniform Anatomical Gift Act

At Southwest Transplant Alliance, we want to ensure that all gifts of donation are honored. After notification from a partner hospital, STA teams search the Donate Life Texas donor registry to determine if the patient being evaluated made a prior decision to donate organ, tissue, and/or eye for transplantation and/or research. When the donor resignation is not present, the legal next of kin is approached for donation, via in person or telephonic. The Uniform Anatomical Gift Act designates the decision to be made by the legal next of kin.

Learn more about the UAGA on our website at organ.org/funeralhomes.



“This has awakened me to a whole new level of gratitude for the generosity of such a gift.”

- MARY LOUIS, BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR
SKIN GRAFT RECIPIENT

What Can Be Donated

Organ and tissue donation gives hope to countless others.

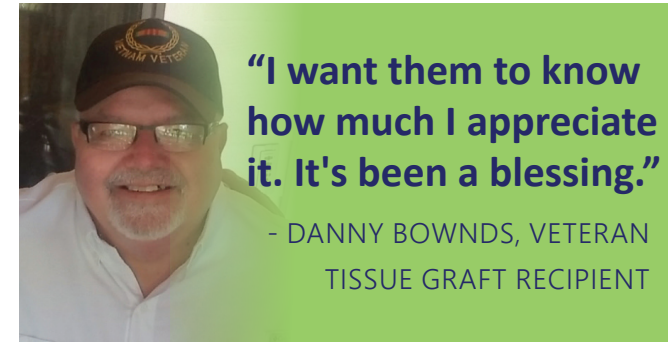
One donor can give up to 8 lifesaving organs and can give tissues and corneas that impact more than 75 people. Lifesaving organs that can be donated include:

- **heart**
 - **liver**
 - **lungs**
 - **pancreas**
 - **kidneys**
 - **intestines**
- **Bone** can be formed into different sizes and shapes and is used in surgeries to replace or restore function, mobility and structural support.
 - **Tendons** are used to repair ligament injuries caused by sports injuries and trauma.
 - **Cartilage** can be used in reconstructive, periodontal and dental transplantation.
 - **Nerves** can ease pain, restore sensory feeling and muscle or organ function.
 - **Heart valves** can be transplanted to save the lives of those suffering from heart defects or damage.
 - **Veins and arteries** are used to rebuild those that are damaged by surgery or infections.
 - **Skin grafts** can save the lives of burn victims as well as ease their extreme pain. In addition, skin is used for cleft palate, gum surgeries and wound repair, breast reconstruction after a mastectomy, hernia and much more.
 - **Corneas** restore eyesight for those who suffer from disease or injury.

Family Resources

Financial Cost of Donation

The donor family is never responsible for any costs related to donation. For questions regarding additional charges resulting from the donation, please do not contact the donor family, but instead contact Southwest Transplant Alliance for more information. A financial reimbursement form for funeral homes is also available on our website.



“I want them to know how much I appreciate it. It's been a blessing.”

- DANNY BOWNDS, VETERAN
TISSUE GRAFT RECIPIENT

Obituaries, Programs & Eulogies

Funeral directors can support donor families by encouraging them to mention their loved one's gift of life in the obituary, funeral program or eulogy. This is a wonderful way for families to honor the gift and raise awareness of the need for donation. Some suggested phrases can include:

John's final act of kindness was to gift the gift of life through organ and/or tissue donation.

John gave in death as he gave in life. His gifts of organ/tissue donation will live on through others.

A hero in life and beyond, John will outlive himself through the gifts of organ and tissue donation.