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organ.org



67% of those on the waiting list in Texas are African American or Latino



Kidney failure is **5X** more common for African Americans than their white counterparts



Latinos are almost **twice as likely** to have diabetes than white individuals

African Americans and Latinos within STA's 89-county service area in Texas **experience a disproportionate need for organ and tissue transplants. STA aims to:**

- **EDUCATE** on the disparities in need, health, and transplants that affect Latino and African American communities.
- **EVALUATE** how our organization addresses racial inequalities and biases, both internally and externally, and how we can lead organ and tissue donation toward an equitable future.
- **HONOR** the Latino and African American lives in our communities, whose legacies live on through donation and whose lives were saved by the selfless decisions of others.

STA seeks to **empower multicultural communities** through information about organ donation and transplantation.

WHY THE DISPARITY?

- **ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE** – Texas ranks last in the country in access to healthcare and affordability, disproportionately affecting African Americans and Latinos.
- **INEQUITABLE HEALTH ISSUES** – Multicultural communities are at higher risk for health issues that lead to organ failure due to historic and systemic inequalities.
- **LACK OF TRUST** – Only 37% of African Americans in STA's service area strongly agree that their doctor treats them equally to other patients.
- **PREVALENCE OF MYTHS** – More than two-thirds of adults surveyed in STA's service area have heard myths about donation. Some myths are more prevalent in multicultural communities.

Source: STA Wakefield Study (2019)

DEBUNKING THE MYTHS

Race, income or social status never play a factor in the allocation of donated tissue or organs.

Anyone – regardless of age or health status – can register to be a donor.

Being a registered donor never impacts how you are cared for by medical personnel.

Most major U.S. religions support donation.

Donation can still allow for an open-casket funeral, if desired.

There is no cost to donor families for organ, eye or tissue donation.

Find more resources, stories and information on donation in Latino and African American communities at organ.org

Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA) is raising awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation across multicultural communities in conjunction with National Minority Donor Awareness Month, a collaborative initiative of the National Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation Multicultural Action Group. STA strives to save and improve the quality of life of diverse communities by creating a positive culture for organ, eye and tissue donation.

STA is a nonprofit organization based in Dallas, Texas, that saves lives by fulfilling the gifts of organ and tissue donation. For more than 40 years, STA has helped save lives by recovering more than 35,000 organs for transplantation and enhanced the lives of tens of thousands of tissue recipients.

STA is among the largest of 58 federally designated organizations responsible for supporting organ and tissue donations. STA is a member of the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) and is accredited by the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO). The organization serves communities across Texas, including Dallas, Beaumont, Bryan/College Station, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Galveston, Midland/Odessa, Temple, Tyler and Wichita Falls. For more information, visit organ.org.



- Register your decision at DonateLifeTexas.org or DoneVidaTexas.org **OR**
- Say “**Yes!**” to donation when renewing your driver’s license at your Texas DPS office **OR**
- Record your decision on your iPhone Health app

Don’t forget to tell your family about your decision and why you want to give the gift of life!