

Organ Donation

A Life-Saving Opportunity

About organ donation and transplantation.

More than 110,000 Americans are waiting for the organ they need to survive. 2000 of those individuals reside in Wisconsin. The need is great and Versiti is committed to increasing the number of donated organs, eyes and tissue available for transplant to save and enhance lives.

Why be a donor?

Versiti Organ and Tissue is a federally designated organ procurement organization supporting the transplant community in southeastern Wisconsin.

We recover organs for transplant, and educate both the public and medical professionals about the tremendous need for organ and tissue donors. We are guided by an advisory board that includes members from the community and affiliated transplant centers.

The network serves 50 critical care hospitals and 3 transplant centers for a population of 2.3 million people in a 12-county region.

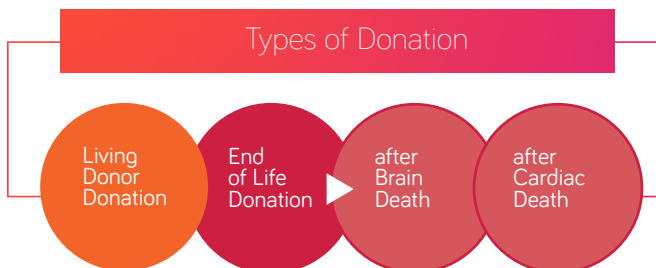
We are the region's primary, most current source of information about organ and tissue donation in collaboration with our state team, Donate Life Wisconsin.

The need is great

Organ Donation at a Glance

Nationwide, there are over 110,000 men, women, and children awaiting lifesaving organ transplants. To put that in to perspective, that's roughly enough people to fill Lambeau Field and Miller Park, combined. Each day, twenty-two people die waiting for an organ while another person is added

to the national transplant waiting list every ten minutes. The need is real. Annually, the number of people in need of a transplant continues to grow, while the availability of viable, lifesaving organs cannot keep up with the increasing demand.



What can be donated?



HEART

Heart disease
(i.e. congenital heart defects,
coronary artery disease,
congestive heart failure, various forms
of cardiomyopathy)



PANCREAS

Diabetes,
pancreatic cancer



LIVER

Chronic hepatitis,
liver tumors, cirrhosis



LUNGS

COPD,
emphysema,
cystic fibrosis



KIDNEYS

Hypertension,
diabetes,
polycystic kidney disease



INTESTINE

Short bowel syndrome,
intestinal failure

The organ donation process

All lifesaving efforts have been made by the hospital medical team.

A referral is called in to Versiti.

WDN evaluates the potential donor to determine medical suitability for organ and tissue donation.

Registry designation is honored (first-person authorization).

If the potential donor is not registered, the family can provide authorization.

Allocation of organs is determined.

Organ and tissue recovery takes place.

Follow-up with hospital staff and the donor family occurs.

How you can help

Versiti

638 N. 18th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53201
414.937.6648
CodeR@Versiti.org

Protect Your Health

Be healthy, visit your doctor annually, and live your best life! It is the greatest long-term solution to reducing the need for organ donation and transplantation.

Register at

[DonateLifeWisconsin.org](https://www.donatelife.wisconsin.org)

1 registered donor has the potential to save up to 8 lives. Organs that can be donated are the: heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and intestines.

Consider Living Donation

Relatives, friends and even people who wish to remain anonymous are heeding the call to serve as living donors. Nearly 7,000 transplants, in the U.S. were made possible in 2018 by living donors.

Extend Your Reach

Once you have joined the registry, be sure to let your family, friends and community members know. Ask them to register too.

Thank **YOU** for choosing and sharing LIFE.

Versiti (formerly BloodCenter of Wisconsin) partners with faith-based communities in southeast Wisconsin through its CodeR initiative, or Churches for Organ Donation Education and Registration. This program invites people in diverse communities to learn more about and become advocates for organ and tissue donation.

