

Update from Donor Alliance's CEO, Jennifer Prinz

Saving and healing lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation in Colorado

About Us

Donor Alliance is the federally designated, non-profit organ procurement organization (OPO) serving Colorado. Our community depends on us during some of the most vulnerable times in their lives. Those waiting for a transplant rely on us for a second chance at life, while the families of donors depend on us to honor their loved ones' heroic decisions to give the gift of life.



Record-Setting Performance

In 2022, we facilitated more organ transplants than ever before, marking our eighth consecutive year of growth. Colorado also maintains some of the highest percentage of individuals joining the state donor registries in the country. **Colorado led the country in 2022 with 66% registration rate, and always surpasses the national average of 49%.** Additionally, thanks to a focus on educating communities of color and a dedication to health equity, we also have parity in transplant rates across races and ethnicities in our state. As a Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award-winning organization, the emergency preparedness plans we established during our performance excellence journey ensured the continuity of our operations throughout the pandemic.

Lifesaving Impact



Matthew Kuchera, the father of two young children from Colorado, is living proof of our commitment to continuous improvement and maximizing the gift of life. In March of 2019, he received the gift of a donated kidney and pancreas after a 26-year battle with type 1 diabetes finally led to organ failure.

After receiving the call that lifesaving organs were available, Matthew remembers his 10-year-old son crying, **"I'm so happy my dad is going to live!"** Now, Matthew is actively sharing his experiences to educate and inspire others on the importance of organ donation and looking forward to his son's 12th birthday. At the same time, the grieving family of his donor are finding comfort in their loved one's lasting legacy.

Commitment to Innovation and Progress

We continue our commitment to excellence by implementing changes to make the system even better and we welcome a focus on continuous improvement and ongoing research in our industry. This includes new metrics presented by CMS; we're working under those now. We continue to invest in tools and technology to maximize all donation opportunities through the utilization of preservation equipment aimed at increasing the number and quality of organs for transplantation. We have experienced the benefits of continuous improvement and will always pursue innovation that maximizes the gift of life.



I appreciate the opportunity to meet with you today. Please let me know if you have any ongoing questions related to organ and tissue donation and transplantation in Colorado.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Prinz
CEO, Donor Alliance
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2023 Donor Alliance Fact Sheet

Donor Alliance is the federally designated, non-profit organ procurement organization and an American Association of Tissue Banks (AATB) accredited tissue bank serving Colorado and most of Wyoming. As a recognized leader in facilitating the donation and recovery of transplantable organs and tissues, Donor Alliance's mission is to save lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation.

To achieve this mission, Donor Alliance collaborates with 117 hospitals and 4 local transplant centers, to support donors, their families and serve our communities. Donor Alliance also inspires the public to sign up to be organ and tissue donors through community partnerships, public outreach and education campaigns throughout our donation service area.

Fast Facts about Organ and Tissue Donation:

Local Colorado and Wyoming stats:

- A record **278** organ donors and **829** organ transplants with **740** lives saved in 2022; that's an **18.8%** increase in organ donors and **29.2%** increase in lives saved compared to 2021.
- Donor Alliance recovered tissue for transplant from **1,911** donors which is the 3rd highest year in our service area.
- There has been a dramatic **56%** decrease in deaths on the Colorado organ transplant waitlist as compared to 2018.
- There are **1,291** people waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant in our service area.
- Of those waiting, **1,122** are waiting for a kidney—the organ most in need (86%)—and **144** are waiting for a liver (11%).
- Of those waiting for an organ transplant, **29%** are under 50 years of age; another **40%** are between 50 and 64.
- Colorado has the nation's highest-performing state donor registry with **66%** of driver license/ID card applicants signing up to be organ and tissue donors. Wyoming is also amongst the top five nationally at **61.29%**.
- Of the **278** organ donors, **71%** were signed up on the Donate Life Colorado or Wyoming Donor Registry.
- Of the **1,911** tissue donors, **69%** were signed up on the Donate Life Colorado or Wyoming Donor Registry.
- Donor Alliance's Donor Service Area serves **6.3** million residents and covers **184,151** square miles – this includes all of Colorado and most of Wyoming.

National stats & facts:

- **13,529** people provided the lifesaving gift of organ donation upon their death last year, making 2022 the 12th consecutive record-breaking year for deceased donation in the United States, a **31.5%** increase over the last five years.
- Because of those generous **14,903** organ donors, **42,887** organ transplants were performed in the United States in 2022, setting an annual record for the 12th year.
- Additionally, **6,466** living donor transplants were performed in 2022.
- Today, **104,646** people are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants nationally.
- Of the patients waiting, **89,241** (85%) are in need of a kidney and **10,723** (10%) are in need of a liver transplant.
- Transplantable organs include the heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine.
- Recoverable tissues include bone, tendons, corneas, veins, valves and skin.
- One donor can save up to **8 lives** through organ donation and save and heal more than **75 lives** through tissue donation.
- On average, **17** people die each day while waiting for a lifesaving transplant.
- On average, about **109** transplants take place each day in the United States.
- Every **9** minutes another name is added to the national transplant waiting list.
- More than **2.5 million** tissue transplants are performed annually in the United States.

Learn more about organ and tissue donation, at www.DonorAlliance.org or call 303-329-4747.

Residents can join the *Donate Life* Colorado or Wyoming Registries by visiting:

www.DonateLifeColorado.org or www.DonateLifeWyoming.org

Statistics provided by the United Network for Organ Sharing, www.unos.org

Last updated: January 26, 2022 [Based on OPTN data as of January 26, 2022]



Partnering to Save More Lives Than Ever Before

Colorado Joint Finance Committee - January 20, 2023

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DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org

MISSION

Donor Alliance saves and heals lives through organ and tissue donation and transplantation

VISION

Maximizing all donation opportunities

ILEAP

Integrity
Leadership
Excellence
Accountability
People First

CORE VALUES

DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org

Donor Alliance DSA

Key Customers

- 4 Local Transplant Centers
- 2 Tissue Processors

Donor Hospitals

- 25 Wyoming Hospitals
- 87 Colorado Hospitals

WYOMING

COLORADO

Key Stakeholders

- Donor Families
- Donor Hospitals
- Community Members
- Coroners

1500

Wait For A Life Saving Transplant

DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org

What Can Be Transplanted?

LIFESAVING & HEALING ORGANS & TISSUES

DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org

Organ Donation Health Equity, Colorado

	White	Hispanic/Latino	Black/African American	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American/Alaska Native	Other	Total
Population	202,422	92,992	28,735	1,267,031	11,424	180,174	3,934,771
Population Percentage	3.5%	1.6%	0.4%	21.8%	0.2%	3.1%	47.7%
Organ Donors	1.6%	0.9%	0.3%	17.3%	0.4%	N/A	74.3%
Organ Recipients	4.7%	0.5%	0.4%	22.6%	0.0%	1.1%	85.1%
Organ Candidates	5.7%	2.0%	1.3%	23.4%	0.3%	1.2%	55.3%

DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org

What is the Donor Registry?

A confidential, electronic database listing individuals in Colorado who have signed up to be an organ, eye and tissue donor after death.

DonorAlliance.org | DonateLifeColorado.org | DonateLifeWyoming.org