April is National Donate Life Month.

Donate Life America and its partner organizations instituted National Donate Life Month in 2003. Prior to 2003, the national observance lasted a week.

National Donate Life Month aims to:
- Celebrate the tremendous generosity of those who have saved and/or enhanced lives by becoming organ, tissue and eye donors.
- Encourage more Americans to say yes to the gift of life by signing up to be a donor and speaking with their family members about their decision.

National Donate Life Month features an entire month of local, regional and national activities.
- Traditionally, organ procurement organizations (such as Indiana Donor Network), hospitals, transplant centers, national donation organizations and other organizations have sponsored special awareness events and donor recognition ceremonies to promote donation awareness and encourage people to sign up to be donors.


CELEBRATING IN INDIANA

Indiana Donor Network and Donate Life Indiana will take to social media for National Donate Life Month observances.
- Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to help honor donor heroes, transplant recipients and their families and caregivers.
- We will also recognize the clinical teams continuing their dedicated work to honor the gift of donation and save the lives of those waiting for a second chance at life.
- In April, Indiana Donor Network and Donate Life Indiana will use the following social media hashtags:
  - #DonateLifeIN
  - #NDLM

National Donate Life Blue & Green Day is Friday, April 16, 2021. Hospitals, transplant centers, partner organizations, businesses and individuals across Indiana are encouraged to show their support for donation and transplantation by proudly displaying the Donate Life colors of blue and green.

National Pediatric Transplant Week is April 18-24, 2021. It focuses on the powerful message of ending the pediatric transplant waiting list.
- Throughout Pediatric Transplant Week, the public is encouraged to share patient stories, honor families of children who saved and/or enhanced lives through organ, tissue and eye donation and transplantation, and celebrate recipients of pediatric donation and transplantation and their families.
HOSPITAL PROMOTION
◆ Hospitals serve as important advocates for organ, tissue and eye donation. National Donate Life Month gives hospitals an opportunity to communicate the importance of signing up as an organ, tissue and eye donor to patients, staff, visitors and community members.
◆ Hospitals can also engage their Donor Councils (when applicable) to promote National Donate Life Month.

GENERAL FACTS OF DONATION
◆ More than 1,000 Hoosiers and over 100,000 people nationwide are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants.
◆ In the U.S., another person is added to the national transplant waiting list every 10 minutes.
◆ Each day in the U.S., 20 people (on average) die because the lifesaving organ they needed didn’t become available in time.
◆ One donor can save up to eight lives through organ donation and heal up to 75 people through tissue and cornea donation.
◆ More than 4 million Hoosiers have said yes to the gift of life by signing up as donors.
◆ Thirty seconds: That’s all it takes to sign up to be an organ, tissue and eye donor at DonateLifeIndiana.org.

CALL TO ACTION: SIGN UP AS A DONOR
◆ Give hope to more than 1,000 Hoosiers waiting for lifesaving transplants. Sign up to be an organ, tissue and eye donor at your local BMV branch or online at DonateLifeIndiana.org.

MORE INFORMATION
◆ Indiana Donor Network: IndianaDonorNetwork.org
◆ Donate Life Indiana: DonateLifeIndiana.org
◆ VisionFirst: VisionFirst.org
◆ Donate Life America: DonateLife.net
◆ United Network for Organ Sharing: UNOS.org
◆ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: organdonor.gov

For National Donate Life Month resources, visit IndianaDonorNetwork.org/NDLM.