



*Gift of Life Donor Program Overview*  
**Leader in Saving Lives for 50 Years**

**Gift of Life Donor Program**, one of the leading organ procurement organizations (OPO) in the United States for more than 50 years, works around-the-clock to support donor families in the hospital and coordinate the recovery of precious organs and tissues from deceased donor heroes to save and heal lives through transplantation.

As the non-profit, federally designated OPO headquartered in Philadelphia, Gift of Life:

- Serves 11.3 million people across the eastern half of Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware and was the **largest provider of life-saving organs** for transplant in those states in 2024.
- Works in partnership with the 124 acute care hospitals and 12 transplant centers in its designated service area as well as hundreds of transplant centers throughout the country.
- Ranks in Tier 1 of CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) OPO donation and transplant performance metrics.
- Provides the most comprehensive array of services available in the U.S. to the donation and transplantation community:
  - These include full-service tissue recovery, an eye bank, organ preservation and transport for living kidney donation, and a dedicated donor care center for organ recovery.

**Leader in Organ & Tissue Donation**

Thanks to its generous community, Gift of Life:

- Has coordinated 14,860 donors and 41,140 organs for transplant, **the most of any OPO in the U.S.** since the start of our national donation system in 1988.
- Has coordinated more than 62,000 organs and more than two million tissue transplants overall since its founding in 1974.

**Leader in Most-Needed Kidneys**

A half million people in the U.S. are suffering from End-Stage Renal Disease, with 90 percent of transplant waitlist patients in the nation needing a kidney transplant. Gift of Life is the U.S. leader in providing kidneys – the most-needed organ for transplant:

- Coordinated 947 kidney transplants in 2024, the **most in the U.S. for the ninth year in a row.**
- Has coordinated 21,772 kidney transplants overall, **the most in U.S. history.**

**Leader in Advocacy**

Gift of Life is rallying the community to increase the donor registry by 50,000 to honor its [50 years of saving lives](#). It is fast, easy and private to sign up at [donors1.org/register](https://donors1.org/register) any time.

- Everyone has the potential to save and heal lives through donation regardless of age, health or medical history.
- The need for more registered donors is one of our country's critical public health issues.
- More than 100,000 children and adults in the U.S. need an organ transplant to survive; 17 people die waiting each day.
- One organ donor can save up to eight lives, and one tissue donor can transform the lives of about 100 others.

### **Leader in Innovation & Research**

Gift of Life is recognized internationally for its expertise, scholarship, innovation and leadership in organ and tissue donation through the donor program and its affiliates.

For more than 20 years, [Gift of Life Institute](#):

- Has served as a global training center for organ and tissue donation professionals, providing comprehensive, interdisciplinary resources including skills-based learning, continuing education, collaborative research and consulting services to increase donation outcomes.
- Has facilitated more than 650 workshops with all U.S. OPOs and multiple tissue banks, training over 14,000 professionals from across the U.S. and 33 countries around the world since its founding in 2004.

For more than 35 years, Gift of Life Institute's [Transplant Pregnancy Registry International](#) (TPRI):

- Has provided organ recipients with science-based information to achieve post-transplant parenthood as the only research study in the world tracking the effects of pregnancy on recipients and the effects of immunosuppressive medications on fertility and pregnancy outcomes.
- Has tracked more than 3,200 parents and 5,600 pregnancies, sharing information with countless transplant recipients and their healthcare teams making family planning decisions since 1991.

### **Leader in Supporting Families**

[Gift of Life Howie's House](#), a welcoming 32-room "home away from home," provides temporary, affordable lodging and professional supportive services for families traveling to Philadelphia for a transplant.

- The House has provided more than 104,000 nights of lodging, 16,700 free shuttle trips to local hospitals and 374,000 meals since opening in 2011.
- Gift of Life has provided more than \$15 million in subsidized care through initiatives supporting transplant patients and their families.
- The House's [Caregiver Lifeline Program](#) provides education and support through webinars and virtual support groups that more than 4,000 transplant patients, caregivers and professionals from most U.S. states and multiple countries have attended.

Learn more at [www.donors1.org](http://www.donors1.org).

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