



## NEWS RELEASE

**CONTACT:**

Katie Whitton, APR  
Director of Public Relations  
214-443-4252 or  
719-235-3180

February 2, 2016

### **SOUTHWEST TRANSPLANT ALLIANCE SETS RECORD FOR SAVING LIVES IN 2015**

Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA), a non-profit organ procurement organization (OPO) based in Dallas, facilitated the recovery of a record-breaking number of organs in 2015. Thanks to the selfless, life-saving gifts of 354 organ donors, STA transplanted 1,123 organs for patients waiting on the transplant list. This marks STA's highest number of organs recovered in a single year, topping the previous record of 998 organs from 317 donors in 2014.

Additionally, the organization set a new record in October 2015 for the most organs recovered for transplant in a single month in the state of Texas. STA has seen a 45% increase in organ donors from 2012-2015 and a 55% increase in the number of organs transplanted since 2012.

STA works across the state with 11 transplant centers and 227 acute care hospitals to facilitate the recovery and placement of life-saving organs for transplant. The collaborative process ensures that donation is offered in a compassionate and positive manner.

Even with STA's remarkable milestones, there are still not enough organs available to meet the need. As a result, 22 people in the U.S. die each day waiting. The growing need for organ transplants is due in large part to an increase in diabetes, heart disease and other conditions for which a transplant is the only cure. Currently, more than 13,000 people in Texas and more than 121,000 nationally are in desperate need of a second chance at life and will not survive without an organ transplant.

###

*About Southwest Transplant Alliance:*

For more than 40 years, STA has been saving lives by recovering donated organs for individuals awaiting a life-saving transplant. STA is among the largest of 58 federally designated, non-profit organ procurement organizations (OPO) and is now ranked number three in the nation for the highest number of organs transplanted. Founded in 1974, STA has facilitated more than 22,000 organs for recovery and enhanced the lives of more than 100,000 people. STA is a member of the United Network of Organ Sharing (UNOS) and is accredited by the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations (AOPO). The organization serves communities in North Texas, Beaumont, Bryan/College Station, Corpus Christi, El Paso, Galveston, Midland/Odessa, Temple and Tyler. For more information, go to [www.organ.org](http://www.organ.org).

Sign up to be an organ donor today at [www.DonateLifeTexas.org](http://www.DonateLifeTexas.org).