



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Organs transplanted in Texas continues growth through the work of Donate Life Texas**

One thousand more lifesaving organs were transplanted to recipients on the waiting list in Texas within the last six years starting in 2012. This represents significant growth and is due to the combined efforts of the three organ procurement organizations (OPOs) in Texas: [LifeGift](#), based in Houston, [Southwest Transplant Alliance](#) (STA), based in Dallas, and [Texas Organ Sharing Alliance](#) (TOSA), based in San Antonio. Together, these three organizations have seen a steady upward trend in the number of organs transplanted beginning with 2,064 organs in 2012 to 3,064 organs in 2017.

This is a 45 percent increase over a six-year period. The Texas OPOs have also seen the total number of organ donors grow from 656 donors in 2012 to 936 donors in 2017.

“Our collective success is based on the wonderful generosity of our donors and their families, said Patti Niles, president of [Donate Life Texas](#) and president and CEO of STA. “Without these heroes, there would be no transplants.”

This significant increase in the number of donors and the number of organs transplanted is partially due to the fact that the Donate Life Texas (DLT) state registry topped 10 million registrants in 2017, with 42 percent of the donors having been registered donors. Texas is now the second largest donor registry in the United States.

There are also two other key indicators of growth. The number of donors per million (DPM) grew from 26 in 2012 to 36 in 2017 and the number of transplants per million (TxPM) has grown from 79 in 2012 to 117 in 2017.

“This transplant means a second chance at life,” said James Guerrero, a 28-year-old kidney recipient. “I look at the world in a new way than I have before. This coming year, I look forward to living a full healthy life again and won’t take anything for granted!”

The three Texas OPOs are the bridge between those who make the decision to donate their organs, eyes and tissues and those in need of a transplant. Their dedicated and compassionate staff works in hospitals to guide grieving families through the donation process and provide the clinical services needed to recover, prepare and transport organs and tissues to those awaiting a transplant.

LifeGift, Southwest Transplant Alliance and Texas Organ Sharing Alliance are all committed to educating the public about the need for donation and the importance of donor registration by supporting the Donate Life Texas registry. Go to [DonateLifeTexas.org](https://www.donatelifetexas.org) to register to become an organ, eye and tissue donor.

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## DONORS



## ORGANS TRANSPLANTED



DonateLifeTexas.org



### About LifeGift

Established in 1987, LifeGift is a nonprofit 501 (c)3 organization that offers hope to individuals needing transplants in Southeast, North and West Texas. A founding member of [Donate Life Texas](#), the organization that runs the organ, eye and tissue donor registry, LifeGift services 10 transplant centers and 200 donor hospitals. It is accredited by the [Association of Organ Procurement Organizations](#) (AOPO) and the [American Association of Tissue Banks](#) (AATB). For more information, visit [www.lifegift.org](http://www.lifegift.org), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Instagram](#).

### ***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). Founded in 1974, STA has facilitated more than 24,000 organs for recovery and enhanced the lives of more than 100,000

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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, Wichita Falls and Tyler. For more information, go to [www.organ.org](http://www.organ.org).

### ***About Texas Organ Sharing Alliance***

Texas Organ Sharing Alliance (TOSA), founded in 1975, is one of 58 federally-designated Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) in the United States. TOSA is committed to a mission of saving lives through the power of organ donation by providing organ donation and recovery services to Central and South Texans wishing to donate, and to those waiting for a life-saving organ transplant. For more information visit [www.TOSA1.org](http://www.TOSA1.org)

### ***About Donate Life Texas***

The Donate Life Texas organ, eye and tissue donor registry started in 2006 and now has more than 10 million registrants, making it the country's second largest donor registry. The registry is supported by all three Texas organ procurement organizations, LifeGift, Southwest Transplant Alliance and Texas Organ Sharing Alliance as well as the 13 eye and tissue banks serving the state.

Signing up is fast and easy at [DonateLifeTexas.org](http://DonateLifeTexas.org) and provides a way for individuals to make their decision to be an organ, eye and tissue donor known. It also provides legal consent for donation after death, which removes the burden of decision-making from the family during an already difficult time.

Donate Life Texas is part of the Donate Life America not-for-profit alliance of national organizations and local partners across the United States, serving as a national voice and inspiring all people to save and enhance lives through organ, eye and tissue donation