



MEDIA RELEASE

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Southwest Transplant Alliance's new, state-of-the-art facility coming in 2020

DALLAS (November 14, 2018) – Southwest Transplant Alliance, the nonprofit organ procurement organization based in Dallas, broke ground on its new organ and tissue facility, where advanced capabilities will enhance the company's lifesaving work in organ and tissue donation. The three-level facility will feature surgical suites, a family care center, a donor care unit and technologically advanced medical equipment to recover and prepare organs for transplantation. A center of excellence dedicated to providing leadership best practices, research, support and training for transplant medicine will be key to servicing the medical community both locally and across the country.

"There are almost 115,000 people in the United States currently on the waiting list to receive lifesaving organs. The ability to quickly recover and then place those organs with a donor match is of critical importance," said Dr. Jeffrey Reese Southwest Transplant Alliance Medical Director and Procurement Surgeon. "With the support of Southwest Transplant Alliance and a state-of-the-art facility serving donors and the medical community, we will advance the science and processes surrounding transplant medicine and save even more lives."

The 77,000 square foot building in North Dallas will receive donors from hospitals across Texas, as well as recover and transport organs and tissue to those awaiting transplants. The center is centrally located to decrease the time between organ procurement and preparation for transplantation.

Central to the building's design and focus will be a donor memorial garden anchored by a 100-year-old oak tree. Inside, a donor family room will be a place for support, care and resources for donor families.

"Our new facility will reduce travel times, increase efficiencies, improve transplant outcomes, and – most importantly – save more lives," said Patti Niles, President and Chief Executive Officer of Southwest Transplant Alliance.

The core mission of Southwest Transplant Alliance is to save lives through organ and tissue donation. Andre Tucker received a lifesaving kidney transplant in Dallas in 2017 and shared his story at the groundbreaking ceremony.

“Because of organ donation, I have a future,” said Tucker. “And STA’s future, here – on this ground – will give that gift of time to countless others.”

To learn more and follow along with building progress, visit www.organ.org/future

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About Southwest Transplant Alliance: For more than 40 years, STA has been saving lives by recovering donated organs for individuals awaiting a lifesaving transplant. In April of 2017, STA began recovering eyes and tissue to improve lives. STA is among the largest of 58 federally designated, nonprofit organ procurement organizations (OPOs). Founded in 1974, STA has facilitated more than 25,000 organs for recovery and enhanced the lives of tens of thousands of people. STA is a member of the United Network for 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. Sign up to be an organ donor today at www.DonateLifeTexas.org.