



APRIL IS NATIONAL DONOR LIFE MONTH

Did you know that every day about 77 individuals receive organ transplants? Sounds like a good number, but someone's name is added to the waiting list every 11 minutes and 19 people die each day waiting for a donor organ that never comes. You have the power to change that because the need is real!



Organ donation takes healthy organs and tissues from one person for transplantation into another. Experts say that the organs from one donor can save or help as many as 50 people! Organs you can donate are:

- Internal organs (kidneys, heart, liver, pancreas, intestines and lungs)
- Skin
- Bone and bone marrow
- Cornea

Most organ and tissue donations occur after the donor has died but some organs and tissues can be donated while the donor is alive.

ANYONE, regardless of age or medical history can sign up to be a donor. If under age 18, parents or guardians must give permission. If older than 18, you can show you want to be a donor by signing a donor card and letting your family know your wishes.

The **Southwest Transplant Alliance (STA)** is a non-profit organ and tissue donor program serving hospitals & patients throughout much of Texas. Go to www.organ.org for more information on organ donation and to register as an organ donor!



**The Medical
Center of Plano**