

A woman with short, wavy brown hair and large hoop earrings is smiling. She is wearing a black, green, and red striped sweater. She is holding a small, red-framed photograph of a young Black child in front of her chest with both hands. The background is a brick wall with a window in the upper right.

Tomasa,
donor mother

Organ, Eye, and Tissue Donation
THE FACTS & IMPACT

LiveOnNY

Caring for New Yorkers
through organ donation



In the U.S., approximately 100,000 people are in need of transplants; they are neighbors, children and family members in our community.

There is a great need for organ transplantation in people of African descent. This is because of a high rate of diabetes, lupus, high blood pressure (hypertension) and heart disease, all of which may lead to organ failure.

What is organ and tissue donation?

Deceased organ and tissue donation is the process of surgically removing organs and tissue from a donor after their death and transplanting them into a living person to replace their failing organs and damaged tissues.

Will my decision to donate affect my medical care?

Strict guidelines mean that doctors who treat you have nothing to do with donation and do not perform transplants. Saving their patients' lives is the hospital's priority. Donation is only considered after death and every effort is made to save a patient's life.

Why is it important for all communities to donate?

People of color have a greater need for donation. They make up nearly 58% of people on the national organ transplant waiting list and nearly 75% of people waiting here in the greater New York area. By having more people signed up as registered organ donors, communities can help save more lives.

How are organs matched with potential recipients?

The United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) manages a national computerized waiting list of transplant candidates. Factors like size, blood type, medical urgency and location are used to see if an organ is a match. Race, income, gender, celebrity and social status are never a factor.



**1 organ donor can save up to 8 lives and
heal up to 75 lives through tissue donation**



In 2008 Roxanne's life was put on hold. She was in failing health, hospitalized 17 times, and suffered a silent heart attack. She would need a heart transplant to live.

Michael Bovill, a 23-year-old E3 Fireman with the U.S. Coast Guard, was in an accident that took his life. He was a registered organ donor and in his final act of generosity, Michael saved Roxanne's life and the lives of four others.

ORGAN DONATION FACTS

- ▶ In the greater New York City area there are more than 6,000 people waiting for a lifesaving kidney transplant, 39% of whom are Black.
- ▶ Diabetes and high blood pressure are the leading causes of kidney failure in people of African descent.
- ▶ People of African descent suffer from kidney failure at a higher rate than people of other races - more than 3 times higher.
- ▶ Anyone can be a potential donor regardless of race, age or medical history.
- ▶ There is no cost to a donor's family for donation. A family is only responsible for expenses from before the death and normal funeral costs.

Give the gift of life by saying yes to organ and tissue donation. Leave a lasting legacy and help others live on.

Learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation at LiveOnNY.org

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-Anita Moore, cornea recipient & liver donor

Anita, a NYPD detective, was shocked when her doctor told her she had a rare genetic condition that was causing her to go blind. She was just 28 years old and working as a police officer in the Bronx. Thankfully, she received a cornea transplant from a selfless tissue donor in July 2011 that restored her sight. "I am so grateful to my donor," she says. Anita went on to donate a portion of her liver to her father in February 2012. "I love my dad," she says. "I hope the donation gives him many more years with us."

Give the gift of life.

visit LiveOnNY.org to save lives.

LiveOnNY

LiveOnNY is the nonprofit organization that facilitates organ donation and transplantation in the greater New York City area. Our teams work with local hospitals and transplant centers to deliver the gift of life to the nearly 9,000 New Yorkers currently waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. We care for the families of the organ donors who selflessly give the gift of life, educate the community about the power of donation and advocate for those waiting for a lifesaving transplant. Learn more at LiveOnNY.org.