


# ORGAN DONATION FACTS



**LiveOnNY**  
Caring for New Yorkers  
through organ donation



A portrait of a young woman with long, dark brown hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a black top and a delicate necklace with a small pendant. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a brick wall and a window.

## **Angelica, waiting for a heart**

At the age of 18, Angelica was diagnosed with heart failure that was likely a result of lifesaving chemotherapy she received at the young age of 4. A year after her diagnosis, Angelica underwent surgery to implant a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD), which keeps her alive by pumping blood throughout her body. Her illness forces her to spend most of her time resting at home rather than going to school or seeing friends. Angelica is currently on the waiting list for a heart transplant. She keeps her cell phone on her at all times as she waits for the phone call that will save her life. She dreams of the day when she can live a more healthy, normal life and when can start planning for the future.

# The NEED for Organ Donation

20

On average 20 people in the US die everyday waiting for a life-saving transplant.

9K

Nearly 9,000 people in New York are waiting for a lifesaving transplant.



Diabetes and high blood pressure can contribute to the need for a transplant.

## The FACTS about Organ Donation



Because organ donation saves lives, major religions celebrate it as a final act of kindness.



Organ donation is often possible even with certain health conditions.

93

The oldest donor in New York was 93 years old.



The organ donation process follows strict guidelines to ensure fairness and equity.



Registering as an organ donor does not change your medical care.



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

# Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Donation is an act of great compassion and generosity that can help others live on. Many families share that their loved one becoming a donor, helped them heal and honor their loved one's legacy of saving lives.



"Michael was a Coast Guard firefighter and he always had a strong desire to help others. When Michael passed away, he donated his organs and saved 5 lives. His heart went to Roxanne, who we've grown to know and love over the years. I can't think of a better person to have received my son's heart. We are so proud that Michael's legacy includes helping others live on."

**-John, Donor Dad**

"When I was asked in the hospital about donating my son's organs, I wasn't sure if it was a good idea. Then I spoke to my grandchildren and they said he would want to help others, so we decided to say yes to donation. I am so grateful I made that choice. Now I volunteer and tell others the story of how organ donation helped our family heal and honor my son's legacy."



**-Carmen, Donor Mother**



# How Does Organ Donation Work?

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



A patient must be signed up as an organ donor. If they never signed up, written permission must be granted by a family member or healthcare proxy on the patient's behalf.



Once a patient is declared dead, LiveOnNY, a separate organization from the hospital, oversees the donation process.



Tests are done at the time of donation to make sure the organs are healthy and to match them to the next person in need on the transplant waitlist.



LiveOnNY will use test results and a computerized system to match donated organs to the best recipient. Matching is never based on race, gender, religion, income status, social status, or celebrity.



Healthy organs are recovered and transplanted.

For more information about organ donation visit  
[LiveOnNY.org/info](https://LiveOnNY.org/info).



## Ken, Kidney Recipient

Thanks to an organ donor, Ken, a longtime Bronx resident, got a new kidney, and a second chance at life. While waiting for a kidney, Ken was afraid to plan ahead or think about the future. Today, Ken is living life to the fullest. He works with the HIV Network of New York and advocates throughout the city for organ donation.

## How Can You Help?



Sign up as a registered organ donor.  
Visit [LiveOnNY.org](https://LiveOnNY.org)



Talk to your loved ones about your personal wishes and support for organ donation as a way to save lives and help others.



Follow us on social media for more stories of donation  
[@LiveOnNewYork](https://www.facebook.com/LiveOnNewYork)



## 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 about organ, eye and tissue donation at [LiveOnNY.org](https://LiveOnNY.org)  
Contact: [Communication@liveonny.org](mailto:Communication@liveonny.org) | Ph: 646-291-4444