Aiden, Liver Recipient

Aiden was barely one day old when his doctors realized something was wrong. Soon the medical team realized that he suffered from a rare genetic disorder that was damaging his liver. Aiden was so sick that a simple cold could land him in the hospital. Eventually he was listed for a liver transplant. At just 27 months old, he underwent his first transplant. Unfortunately, he developed a blood clot which necessitated a second liver transplant three months later. The second transplant was a success and now Aiden is a happy, healthy nine year old who enjoys karate and basketball. “No amount of words ever seem to be enough when showing how grateful we are to our donor families,” Nicole says. “Our donor families gave our son a chance to live a better quality of life. A day does not go by without us thinking about how their decisions has forever changed the narrative of his life.”
The NEED for Organ Donation

17
On average 17 people in the US die everyday waiting for a life-saving transplant.

8K
Nearly 8,000 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.

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 50-75 lives through tissue donation.
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, LiveOn, 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.

LiveOn 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.
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
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.

Ken, Kidney Recipient