



A Message from CEO Raymond Graeca

CORE - Center for Organ Recovery & Education

One Pennsylvanian dies every 18 hours waiting for an organ transplant. Nationally, more than 121,000 people are awaiting an organ transplant. At least 21 will die each day without receiving one. Penn Highlands Healthcare is pleased to join the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP), the Center for Organ Recovery & Education (CORE) and organ procurement organizations throughout the country to inspire hope, advocacy and passion for National Donate Life Month.

Throughout April, CORE is encouraging individuals to register to become an organ, tissue and cornea donor. For every person who donates their organs, tissue and corneas, up to 50 lives can be saved or dramatically improved.

We are uniquely positioned as we tend to the health of our patients to inspire our communities to become organ donors. Inspiring more people to become organ, tissue and cornea donors, further fulfills our mission to be leading advocates for the well-being of all and save even more lives.

During National Donate Life Month, we pause to celebrate the lives saved and enhanced through organ, tissue and cornea donation, and to honor those who have so selflessly served as organ, tissue and cornea donors. Registering to become a donor only takes about 30 seconds, but it's one of the most meaningful

ways individuals can inspire hope and change the life of someone waiting for a transplant.

As a system, let's encourage people to talk with their physicians, family and friends about making the Pledge for Life to become a donor.

They can sign up by visiting www.donatelifepa.org/ registration or they can visit one of the information tables being hosted throughout our facilities this month.

Please plan to attend the CORE flag-raising ceremonies at your hospital that will be announced. You may also participate in Blue & Green Day on Friday, April 15, and show support by wearing the colors of CORE. Take a picture of your co-workers in blue and green, and share it with the Marketing Department for social media. There are many ways to inspire and support. We hope that join those who already have pledged to make a difference.

Facts about organ, tissue and cornea donation:
Anyone can be a potential donor regardless of age, race or medical history.

More than 8,500 patients in Pennsylvania are awaiting life-saving organ transplants. Thousands of others could benefit from life-enhancing tissue and cornea transplants.

More than 100,000 people across the U.S. are awaiting a kidney; 16,000 people across the nation are awaiting a liver.

Approximately 11,000 people die annually who are considered medically suitable to donate organs, tissue and corneas, yet only a fraction donate.

APRIL IS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Make Life Possible.

**Take the pledge at
core.org/register.**

