## ORGAN, TISSUE, CORNEA, BONE or WHOLE BODY DONATION

**Step # 1.** Anyone 15 years of age and older can register as an organ, eye and tissue donor at DMV. You can be a donor regardless of your health or physical condition, so do not rule yourself out. One donor can save up to eight lives.



To sign up on the Donor Registry:

- Go to your local DMV office and put a heart code on your license, permit or identification card;
- Go online at donatelifenw.org; or
- Request a paper form by calling 800-452-1369.

By signing up on the Donor Registry, you are confirming your commitment to be a donor and making sure your decision is known by the organ, eye, and tissue recovery agencies. It is **extremely important** you let your family know of your wish to be a donor.

## **Step # 2: Living donation:** donating one of your kidneys while you are alive.

**Tissue donation:** Donated tissues such as skin, bone, and heart valves can dramatically improve the quality of life for recipients, and even save lives.

Like cornea donation, most deceased persons are eligible to donate lifesaving and lifechanging tissues. A single tissue donor can save or improve the health of over 125 individuals. This is because tissue can be processed and stored for an extended period of time, and is used in so many different ways:

- Skin grafts save the lives of burn victims.
- Bone grafts help people whose bones have degenerated due to infection, tumors, or trauma.
- Tendons and soft tissue can help people lead more active lives for example, by replacing an athlete's torn ACL.
- Heart valves save the lives of those suffering damage from infections, age-related diseases, or genetic conditions.
- Replacement of hip bones can restore mobility.
- Veins can help re-establish circulation.
- Nerves restore sensation and function.
- Cartilage can be used to reconstruct facial features after physical trauma.

Whole body donation: gifting your body to a medical or nursing school

Information about donating. <a href="https://www.donatelifenw.org/deceaseddonation">https://www.donatelifenw.org/deceaseddonation</a>