



Lauren's Law

It started when Lauren Shields was seven. Fatigued and withdrawn, something was wrong. She knew she wasn't herself. What she didn't know was that she was in for the fight of her life.

Doctors soon realized that Lauren's heart was failing. Her parents feared the worst. She kept fighting, and just before her ninth birthday, Lauren received the transplant that would change her life.

From that day forward, Lauren was on a mission. She worked tirelessly to advance legislation that would tear down barriers to donation. In 2013, Assemblyman Palmesano partnered with Lauren and co-sponsored legislation requiring New Yorkers applying for drivers licenses to be explicitly asked if they want to become donors.

The legislation is called Lauren's Law.

Organ donation is a very personal issue for me. I have seen firsthand the incredible impact organ donation can have on a family as several members of my family have benefited from a life-saving organ transplant. Unfortunately, in New York State, far too many people are awaiting a transplant. You never know when a member of your family may need a life-saving transplant. Please, please, please consider becoming an organ donor today and you will save lives.



Aisha Tator, NY Alliance for Donation Executive Director; Victor Polce, Jeanne Shields, Assemblyman Felix Ortiz, Organ Donation Advocate Lauren Shields and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano on the Assembly Floor during Organ Donation Advocacy Day.

DONATE LIFE

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320 Legislative Office Bldg. • Albany, NY 12248 • (518) 455-5791
105 East Steuben Street • Bath, NY 14810 • (607) 776-9691

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Organ And Tissue Donation In New York State

D O N A T E L I F E

Every year in New York State, more than 1,500 people receive kidneys, livers, and hearts that have been donated for transplantation. However, with more than 10,000 New Yorkers still on waiting lists, the need for organ donations far exceeds the supply. One person who donates organs (hearts, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas and intestine) can save up to eight lives, while tissue donors (corneas, bone, skin, heart valves, tendons, veins, etc.) can improve fifty or more lives by restoring eyesight, helping fight infections in burn patients and prevent the loss of mobility and disability.

The need for donated organs and tissues continues to grow. There are currently more than 123,000 people in the U.S. waiting for organ transplants. Each year, approximately 6,000 people die waiting for an organ transplant that would have given them a second chance at life with their families. New York State is particularly affected by the organ scarcity crisis.



More than 10,000 New Yorkers need life-saving organ transplants.



More than 1,600 people in New York State have been on the waiting list for more than five years.



About 600 New Yorkers die each year due to a shortage of donors.

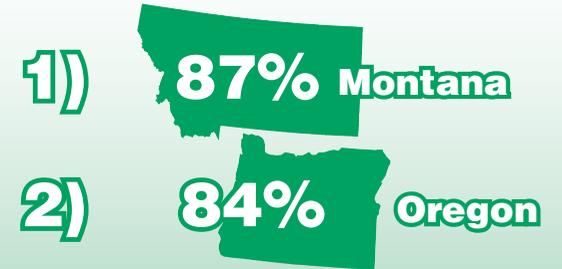


New York has the third highest need for donors in the US, yet the second lowest percentage of registered donors.



Assemblyman Palmesano at Organ Donation Advocacy Day with his legislative colleagues, donor families, transplant recipients and their families, and representatives from the New York Alliance for Donation.

States With Highest Percentage Of Donors



States With Lowest Percentage Of Donors



**WE CAN DO BETTER.
WE MUST DO BETTER.**

The Benefit Of Organ And Tissue Donation

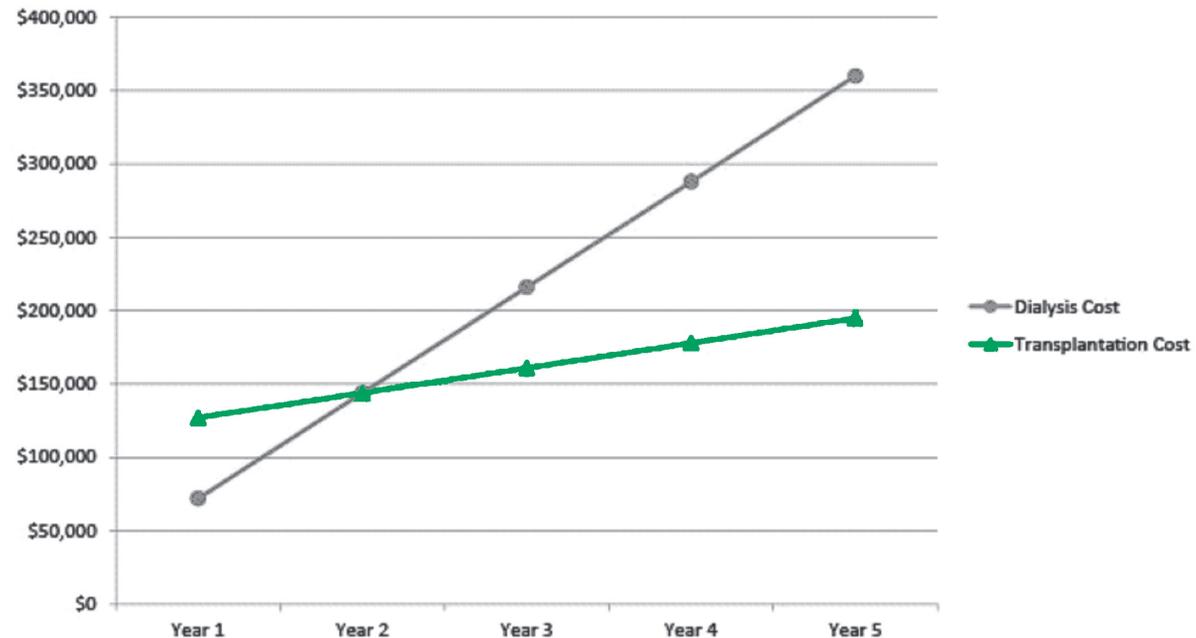
Transplantation is a remarkable success story. Nearly 30,000 people with organ failure benefit from transplants each year. Additionally, each year hundreds of thousands of people benefit from donated tissue that is used for life-saving and reconstructive purposes.

- More than 1,500 New Yorkers receive life-saving organ transplants on an annual basis.
- At only one-year post transplant, more than half of liver recipients have returned to work.
- The benefit of transplantation goes beyond the individual. Improving employment status helps not only the individual, but the family and the community.
- After only two years, the cumulative cost of dialysis surpasses the cost of transplantation.



Kidney Transplantation Cost Savings

After only two years, the cumulative cost of dialysis surpasses the costs associated with transplantation www.donatelifenewyork.com



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*Feel free to contact me with any state question or issue.

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Want To Help Increase Organ, Eye And Tissue Donation?



Register as an organ and tissue donor!
There are several easy ways to register in New York State:



4 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER AS AN ORGAN AND TISSUE DONOR IN NEW YORK STATE

- 1** Register online at donatelifenewyork.com
- 2** Register when you apply for or renew your NYS driver license or non-driver ID card or your IDNYC card
- 3** Register on a NYS voter registration form
- 4** Request a postage-paid enrollment form from info@alliancefordonation.org



Follow the New York Alliance for Donation on social media. Like and share their content regularly:

 Facebook: www.facebook.com/DonateLifeNYS

 Twitter: @DonateLifeNYS

 YouTube: www.youtube.com/DonateLifeNYS



Display registry enrollment brochures and donation posters at your place of employment. These can be obtained by sending an email request to info@alliancefordonation.org.



Send an email to employees, co-workers, friends and family asking them to "Enroll in the New York State Donate Life Organ and Tissue Donor Registry at www.donatelifenewyork.com."



Put a link on your website or blog with the call to action "Enroll in the New York State Donate Life Organ and Tissue Donor Registry at www.donatelifenewyork.com."

Facts about organ, eye and tissue donation

- One donor can save the lives of 8 people through organ donation and improve the lives of 50 more through eye and tissue donation.
- People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors. The medical condition of the donor at the time of death will determine what organs and tissue can be donated. Don't count yourself out.
- Saving your life is paramount. Organ and tissue donation becomes an option only after all life-saving measures have been taken and death has been declared. The decision to donate does not interfere with medical care.
- All major religions support organ and tissue donation.
- Donation does not delay or change funeral arrangements, and an open casket is possible.
- There is no cost to a donor's family or estate for organ and tissue donation.
- Organs are distributed based on medical information like blood type, body size and tissue type matching through a national computer network operated by the UNOS. It is illegal to distribute organs based on nonmedical information such as wealth, citizenship or celebrity status.
- It is illegal to buy or sell organs and tissue in the United States.
- It is possible to donate a kidney, partial liver, lung or pancreas as a living donor.