



Contact: Jeanette Slakey
504.232.1479
jslakey@organawareness.org

**ORGAN DONATION IS NOT A SEARCH FOR A CURE – IT IS THE CURE.
BE NICE, DONATE LIFE!**

MISSION

The mission of the Legacy Donor Foundation (a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization) is to prevent the loss of human life due to lack of available organs for transplantation by educating the citizens of Louisiana about the critical need for organ, eye and tissue donation. Through public education and awareness activities, the Foundation promotes organ donation and fosters informed family acceptance of the process.

HISTORY

Founded in 1999, the Legacy Donor Foundation (a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization) provides education and public awareness activities about organ donation. We seek to increase donor registrations and foster informed family acceptance of the process. When the Legacy Donor Foundation was founded in 1999 there were 450,000 names on Louisiana's Legacy Organ and Tissue Donor Registry. Today, due to strong marketing and public relation campaigns, educational forums, health fairs, minority awareness campaigns, and workplace partnerships, there are nearly 1.7 million names on the registry. We are making progress.

AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Baton Rouge Youth Forums
New Orleans Youth Forums
Shreveport Youth Forum
Lafayette Youth Forum
Workplace Partnerships
Health Fairs/Public Events
Physician Education Program
General Marketing and Awareness Campaigns
Minority Awareness Campaigns

FUNDING

Each of us has the ability to save someone's life by becoming an organ, eye and tissue donor. The funds the Foundation raises support awareness and education programs that aim to reduce the number of Louisianans who die waiting for an organ transplant. Organ donation is not a search for a cure – it is the cure.

Corporate and individuals contribute funds directly do the foundation. The Foundation also receives funding from grants and government sources. To contribute log on to www.organawareness.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 donor can save the lives of up to 9 people, restore sight to 2 people, and enhance the lives of up to 50 people through tissue donation.
- Anyone can potentially be a donor regardless of age, race or medical history. Cancer, heart disease, diabetes, poor eyesight or cataracts will not prevent you from being a donor.
- All major religions approve of organ, eye and tissue donation, and even see it as an unselfish act of charity.
- Donation does not prevent open casket funerals.
- Organs and tissue are surgically removed and the donor is treated with utmost dignity and respect.
- There is no cost to the donor or their family for organ, eye and tissue donation.
- It is illegal to distribute organs based on wealth, citizenship, or celebrity status.
- It is illegal to buy or sell organs in the United States.
- Your decision to donate will not interfere with life-saving medical care. Organ and tissue donation is only an option after all attempts have been made to save your life and death has been declared.
- Let family members know about your decision to become an organ, tissue and eye donor. Only then can they support your decision to give the Gift of Life.

Becoming a Donor is easy! You can:

- complete a registration form and mailing it to P. O. Box 15680, New Orleans, LA 70175
- sayi “yes” to organ donation when you get or renew your driver’s license or by
- go to www.organawareness.org

Share your wishes to become a donor.
Talk with your family about organ donation.

STATISTICS ABOUT DONATION

In 2006:

- Nationally, there were 22,201 transplants from deceased donors, and 6,731 from living donors.
- In Louisiana, there were 353 transplants from deceased donors, and 63 from living donors.
- Nationally, there were 8,024 deceased donors and 6,732 living donors.
- In Louisiana, there were 133 deceased donors and 63 living donors.
- Nationally, 6,930 people were removed from the waiting list because they died before a donor organ became available. 96 of these were in Louisiana.
- Nationally, 53,003 people were added to the waiting list. 725 of these were in Louisiana.
- There are almost 100,000 people on the national waiting list.