

# **Organ and Tissue Donation Facts**

## Power of Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation

- Just 1 organ donor can save up to 8 lives and a tissue donor can improve the lives of more than 100 others.
- One organ donor can donate their kidneys, pancreas, liver, lungs, heart and intestines.
- Tissue donation includes bone donations to repair fractures and prevent amputations, skin donations to heal burn patients, and heart valve donations to repair life-threatening defects. Tissue donors can also donate their corneas, which can give the gift of sight to two recipients.

### Critical public health issue

- Nationally, there are more than **100,000** people waiting for an organ transplant.
  - 17 people die each day waiting for an organ transplant.
  - Every 10 minutes, another person's name is added to the list.
- o There are more than **5,000** men, women and children in our region awaiting a life-saving organ transplant.

### • Gift of Life Donor Program

- o Gift of Life Donor Program serves **11.3** million people across the eastern half of Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware.
- Since 1974, Gift of Life has coordinated more than 52,500 organ transplants and approximately 1.75 million tissue transplants.
- o Gift of Life's annual donation rate ranks among the highest in the world, equating to **55** organ donors-per-million-population.
- Gift of Life's region is the most generous in the nation for organ donation thanks to the selflessness of our donors and donor families who give the gift of life and the dedication of our hospital partners.
- Working in partnership with the 128 acute care hospitals and 15 transplant centers.
- For the 13<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Gift of Life leads the nation in the most organ donors among all 57 U.S. OPOs.
  - Most organ donors coordinated life-saving gifts from 619 organ donors in 2020, resulting in 1,619 organs transplanted.

#### Register to be an Organ and Tissue Donor

- o **95%** of people surveyed in the U.S. support organ donation, yet in many states, including PA, the organ donor registration rate is below **50%**.
- o It only takes 30 seconds to register.
- Gift of Life encourages everyone to discuss organ donation with loved ones to make their personal preferences known.