



# STRONGER **TOGETHER**

2020 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



Aline and Josh Copp hold a photo of their baby, Carter, while standing near a bench built in her memory on a Tamalpais Valley hilltop.

## OUR MISSION

Donor Network West saves and heals lives through organ and tissue donation for transplantation and research.

## OUR VISION

To be the industry leader of organ and tissue procurement with compassionate support and service.



Lizette Garcia, pictured with her husband and son, is a heart recipient who received her transplant when she was 14-years-old

## ABOUT DONOR NETWORK WEST

Donor Network West is the federally designated nonprofit organ procurement organization for northern California and northern Nevada. Established in 1987, we serve more than 13 million people, connecting donors' gifts to patients waiting for a lifesaving transplant. We are able to carry out our mission of saving and healing lives thanks to our partnership with 175 hospitals, doctors, nurses, more than 500 funeral homes and 44 coroners and medical examiners. Donor Network West is proud to be a Donate Life organization and a member of Donate Life California and Donate Life Nevada.





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## TOGETHER WE DID THE IMPOSSIBLE

**2020 WAS A YEAR FOR** the history books. As the world grappled with how to combat the global pandemic that is COVID-19, we saw our friends, neighbors, family, community and businesses shut their doors, while people huddled inside hoping to keep this deadly virus away. But when everyone else hid away, the essential workers, healthcare professionals and organ procurement organization teams across the United States, stood strong weathering the pandemic together to help keep as much normalcy to our lives as possible and to continue our mission and commitment to families, patients, donors and waiting recipients to help save and heal lives.

Together we did the impossible and today we are better for it. In fact, in 2020, the Donor Network West team was able to tie its all-time record of organ donors, coordinating 411 organ donors, resulting in 1,177 organs transplanted. Donor Network West also coordinated the recovery of tissue from 2,150 donors and recovered 2,450 research samples. In a normal year, the great work of the team would have been a great feat, but given the difficult challenges our team faced, these results are phenomenal.

2020 also served as a year of opportunity, as Donor Network West was the first on the West Coast to coordinate the recovery of a heart from a donation after circulatory death (DCD) donor. Donor Network West achieved this feat twice, resulting in two patients receiving transplants and a second chance at life. This was a significant accomplishment because until recently, only hearts from patients who have been declared brain dead (DBD) were recovered for transplantation in the United States because of the need to perform a functional assessment of the organ before transplant. These efforts helped Donor Network West recover its highest number of DCD donors, with 110 DCD donors, the third highest among the nation’s 58 organ procurement organizations.

So, while 2020 may have been a challenging year, it was a reminder of how powerful we are together. Yet still, we continue to thrive. However, our efforts would not be possible without the generous gifts from our donors. As we all know, not all heroes wear capes. The true heroes are each and every donor, who selflessly gave the gift of life so someone waiting could have a second chance at life. For that, we are eternally grateful.

Thank you again to all of you for everything you do to help raise awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation. Please continue to share your stories and share your wishes with your loved ones. Because together, we are stronger, and together we can one day eliminate the organ transplant waiting list.

With gratitude,  
Janice F. Whaley

President and CEO

# SHANNON MURPHY

## ORGAN DONOR

At age 42, 911 dispatcher and mother of two, Shannon Murphy was visiting her parents in Chico, CA when she suddenly collapsed. Frantic, her mother dialed 911 and connected with dispatch, who provided the emergency assistance that Shannon herself had provided to so many others. Shannon had experienced a catastrophic brain aneurysm and despite the heroic efforts of physicians and nurses, she was declared brain dead.

Shannon had registered to be an organ donor through the DMV, but had not discussed the decision with her family. As they gathered in the hospital, processing their grief, a Donor Network West team member gently walked them through the process.

Her mother Claudette recalls, “At first, I was angry because we had not yet come to terms with the reality of our loss. As someone who has been a registered donor for years, I would not have thought of donation at that moment. Looking back, I am thankful that we received that phone call to bring a legacy from a tragedy.”



*“I tell people about Shannon all the time. She helped many people during her lifetime, but the organ and tissue donation was her last and greatest gift. A legacy from a tragedy that is my daughter, Shannon.”*

Shannon’s legacy lives on. The donation of her heart, lungs, liver, kidneys, pancreas, and intestines saved seven lives. As a tissue donor, she also donated bone, connective tissue, and corneas, healing many others.

Her mother Claudette is now a Donate Life Ambassador.

She says that “I tell people about Shannon all the time. She helped many people during her lifetime, but the organ and tissue donation was her last and greatest gift. A legacy from a tragedy that is my daughter, Shannon.”

2020

## Year in Review

In 2020, we honored the wishes of our donors, gave transplant recipients a second chance at life and hope to those who wait.



411  
ORGAN DONORS



2,450  
RESEARCH SAMPLES



1,177  
ORGANS TRANSPLANTED



2,150  
TISSUE DONORS



#### FROM TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH

## LIZETTE GARCIA HEART RECIPIENT

Lizette Garcia is a Hispanic heart transplant recipient who was part of our media outreach for the 2020 virtual run walk event. Lizette is an ambassador and is a wife and mother to 4 year old Abraham. Lizette is a kind and dedicated mother. She had her heart transplant when she was 14 years old. She is now in her thirties.

*"I was diagnosed with a heart disease at the age 8. I received my heart transplant at the age of 14 at UCLA. I'm now 37 and enjoying life with my family in a little town in Tulare County."*

## Organ Donation

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Donor Network West continued its life-saving work coordinating 411 organ donors; matching its all-time annual record of organ donors set in 2019; resulting in 1,177 organs transplanted. The organization also recorded its highest number of hearts transplanted in one year with 120 total hearts transplanted.

411  
ORGAN DONORS  
1,177  
ORGANS TRANSPLANTED

## Maximizing Gifts from DCD Donors

Donor Network West recovered its highest number of donation after circulatory death (DCD) donors, with 110 DCD donors, the third highest among the nation's 58 organ procurement organizations.

In the fall of 2020, Donor Network West achieved a first on the West Coast, when it coordinated the donation of hearts from two DCD donors, resulting in two patients receiving transplants and a second chance at life, both in San Diego. Until recently, only hearts from patients who have been declared brain dead (DBD) were recovered for transplantation in the United States because of the need to perform a functional assessment of the organ before transplant.



621 KIDNEYS | 265 LIVERS | 155 LUNGS | 120 HEARTS | 15 PANCREAS





## Tissue Donation

In 2020, the tissue operations team defined resiliency maintaining or growing every part of the operation. During the uncharted waters of a global pandemic, the team increased tissue donor authorization rates, increased musculoskeletal and cardiovascular donor recoveries, welcomed 4 new department leaders, handled a significant increase in incoming donor referral volume, as well as many other positive milestones. The team also optimistically planned their future by mapping out more efficient processes, redesigned surgical materials and instrument kits, as well as introduced a new career ladder. By any standards, the tissue operations team experienced significant growth during 2020 and for 2021, we are all looking forward to continued growth offering more opportunities for successful tissue transplants within our community.



### FROM TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH

## FRANCINE SALAZAR ORGAN DONOR

Francine Salazar was a fun loving 10-year-old aspiring cartoonist and chef from Visalia, California. She loved art and unicorns and enjoyed dancing and singing to KPOP BTS, Blackpink and EXO. In 2019, Francine lost her life when her family vehicle was struck by another vehicle. Francine saved the lives of four individuals through the donation of her heart, pancreas, and both kidneys. Her spirit lives on in her family.



2,150  
TISSUE DONORS

536 HEART VALVES

1,392 CORNEAS

5,730 SKIN TISSUES

67,425 BONES (Musculoskeletal)





## ORGAN, EYE & TISSUE DONATION FOR RESEARCH SUPPORTS NEW THERAPIES FOR COVID-19 & BEYOND

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken both a human and economic toll on the world around us. In an effort to save lives, the biomedical research field worked tirelessly to process the identification of the COVID-19 virus and developed a successful vaccine in record time, the fastest in human history. While RNA vaccines have not been used previously, they are the result of decades of prior research. In fact, the RNA molecule was first identified in the early 1900s. It has taken almost a century to successfully use it for therapeutic purposes in humans.

As the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccines continue to be distributed around the world, it is a reminder of the important role that Donor Network West’s research department plays in supporting biomedical research. Through our work in recovering organs, eyes and tissue for research, Donor Network West has been able to support a large number of world-class projects across the United States, ranging from finding new therapies for COVID-19 to treating leukemia in children and building the first artificial retina for blind people.



*“Donating Carter’s organs and tissues for research was a wonderful tribute that added a layer of dignity and meaning to her life. It gave us strength, hope and peace to know that her gifts would impact the lives of others through science and research.”*

Aline Copp | Donor Mother

## Research

In 2020, despite the COVID-19 challenges, Donor Network West provided 2,450 research samples to scientists in the US, leading to the publication of at least 10 articles in international scientific journals. There is no doubt the gifts provided by our authorized donors will be the cornerstone for new treatments for various diseases and will save lives for years to come.



2,450  
RESEARCH  
SAMPLES

### SOME OF OUR PARTNERS INCLUDE

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE            |
| CHAN ZUCKERBERG INSTITUTE  | UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA                  |
| SCRIPPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE | UCSF MEDICAL CENTER                         |
| STANFORD MEDICAL CENTER    | THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS (DARTMOUTH) |

Donor Network West is dedicated to working in close partnership with researchers in academic medical centers, hospitals, universities and biotechnology centers to advance the field of research through organ and tissue donations.



# Community Education & Outreach

While in-person community education and outreach efforts were halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the team did not let it stop them from continuing to reach communities about the vital importance of organ, eye and tissue donation for transplantation and research. Our community team worked in partnership with Donate Life Ambassadors to elevate the stories of generous donors through social media channels and digital marketing efforts.



San Jose Earthquakes fans gather for a photo at a Donor Network West community event



2020 Donate Life Float, "Light in the Darkness"



The Great Reno Balloon Race



Living donor Susie LeRoy holds 2-year-old Kaleb Perry, the pediatric transplant recipient who received part of Susie's kidney



Donate Life Run/Walk | Team Karly

## Frank Green — One Year Transplant Anniversary

A year ago Frank Green received a new heart and a second chance at life. Since then he has been feeding the homeless in the Chinatown area in Monterey County as well as meeting with inmates serving life sentences at the Soledad Correctional Facility. Thanks to the generosity of a donor, Frank most recently got to see his son, Syon, graduate high school.

## Our Son, Sebastian — A Donor Family's Story

Donor parents, German and Jessi, share their son's story. Through a senseless tragedy came hope, and Sebastian became a hero to three people through organ donation.

## The Gift of Life in an Image

An organ recovery medical team pays tribute to a young female organ donor who went on to save lives. Before an organ recovery, the medical staff reads a prepared speech and has a moment of silence to honor the donor for their decision to save and heal lives.





2020



# HOSPITAL PERFORMANCE DATA

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Donor Network West continued its life-saving mission, recovering 1,177 organs for transplant from 411 organ donors. In addition, 2,150 people said “yes” to tissue donation. Through the generosity of these donors and their families, partner hospitals, coroners, and funeral homes, thousands of lives were saved and improved.

## Regional and Partner

	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
Bay Area Region	280	147	417	704
25+ Potential Organ Donors				
John Muir Medical Center Walnut Creek Campus	31	20	56	61
Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center	27	12	40	23
Eden Medical Center	25	12	40	23
15-24 Potential Organ Donors				
Highland Hospital	19	9	27	28
UCSF Medical Center Parnassus Campus	18	6	14	20
California Pacific Medical Center Van Ness Campus	17	12	30	18
5-14 Potential Organ Donors				
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Redwood City	14	5	11	16
Washington Hospital	9	7	24	29
NorthBay Medical Center	8	6	18	34
California Pacific Medical Center Mission Bernal Hospital	8	5	16	4
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Oakland	7	3	9	30
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Vacaville	7	5	23	17
St. Rose Hospital	7	5	6	18
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland	7	1	0	3
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Vallejo	6	5	17	29
Sutter Delta Medical Center	6	1	6	19
John Muir Medical Center Concord Campus	5	3	6	18
Queen of the Valley Medical Center	5	2	8	26
Seton Medical Center	5	1	4	13
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Summit Campus	4	4	8	21
UCSF Medical Center at Mission Bay	4	1	2	3
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Antioch	3	2	2	11
Adventist Health St. Helena	3	3	6	7
California Pacific Medical Center Davies Campus	3	3	7	7
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Fremont	3	2	4	9
Kaiser Foundation Hospital South San Francisco	3	2	4	5
MarinHealth Medical Center	3	2	5	15
Mills-Peninsula Medical Center	3	1	3	24
San Leandro Hospital	3	-	-	3
Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare Medical Center	3	1	1	22
Alta Bates Summit Medical Center (Ashby) Alta Bates Campus	2	1	2	7
Kaiser Foundation Hospital San Francisco	2	0	0	7
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Santa Rosa	2	0	0	5
NorthBay VacaValley Hospital	2	1	1	7
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Richmond	1	1	6	12
Kaiser Foundation Hospital San Leandro	1	1	2	6
Petaluma Valley Hospital	1	-	-	-
Saint Francis Memorial Hospital	1	-	-	-



Regional and Partner	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
Bay Area Region	280	147	417	704
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
San Ramon Regional Medical Center	1	1	4	6
Sequoia Hospital	1	1	5	5
AccentCare	–	–	–	–
Ace Home Health Care & Hospice, Inc.	–	–	–	–
Alameda Hospital	–	–	–	–
Chinese Hospital	–	–	–	–
Contra Costa Regional Medical Center	–	–	–	3
David Grant Medical Center	–	–	–	6
Fairmont Hospital	–	–	–	–
General: California	–	–	–	7
Healdsburg District Hospital	–	–	–	1
Hospice and Palliative Care of Contra Costa	–	–	–	–
Kaiser Foundation Hospital San Rafael	–	–	–	8
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Walnut Creek	–	–	–	18
Kentfield Hospital San Francisco	–	–	–	–
Kentfield Rehabilitation & Specialty Hospital	–	–	–	1
Kindred Hospital SF Bay Area	–	–	–	–
Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehab Center	–	–	–	–
Livermore VA Nursing Home Care Center	–	–	–	1
Novato Community Hospital	–	–	–	2
San Mateo Medical Center	–	–	–	1
Seton Medical Center Coastside	–	–	–	–
Sonoma Valley Hospital	–	–	–	5
Sonoma West Medical Center	–	–	–	1
St. Mary's Medical Center San Francisco	–	–	–	6
Stanford Health Care - ValleyCare Livermore Campus	–	–	–	1
Sutter Care at Home SF	–	–	–	–
Sutter Solano Hospital	–	–	–	–
UCSF Medical Center Mount Zion Campus	–	–	–	–
VA - San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center	–	–	–	2
VA - Veterans Administration Hospital Menlo Park	–	–	–	2
Vitas Healthcare	–	–	–	–
Coroners and Medical Examiners				
Alameda County Coroner	–	–	–	1
Contra Costa County Coroner	–	–	–	–
Napa County Coroner	–	–	–	6
San Mateo County Coroner	–	–	–	3
Solano County Coroner	–	–	–	5
Sonoma County Coroner	–	–	–	13

Regional and Partner	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
Fresno Region	116	52	155	386
25+ Potential Organ Donors				
Community Regional Medical Center	57	24	81	83
15-24 Potential Organ Donors				
Kaweah Health	19	7	15	46
5-14 Potential Organ Donors				
Valley Children's Hospital	13	6	19	6
Adventist Health Hanford	6	3	10	23
Saint Agnes Medical Center	5	4	8	55
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
French Hospital Medical Center	3	2	3	13
Clovis Community Medical Center	2	2	7	23
Madera Community Hospital	2	1	5	7
Mercy Medical Center Merced	2	1	1	15
Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center	2	–	–	6
Twin Cities Community Hospital	2	2	6	7
Adventist Health Tulare	1	–	–	8
Coalinga Regional Medical Center	1	–	–	–
Sierra View Medical Center	1	–	–	14
Adventist Health Reedley	–	–	–	3
Adventist Health Selma	–	–	–	3
Arroyo Grande Community Hospital	–	–	–	8
Central Valley General Hospital	–	–	–	–
Chowchilla Skilled Nursing Facility	–	–	–	–
Community Subacute and Transitional Care Center	–	–	–	–
Fresno Heart and Surgical Hospital	–	–	–	2
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Fresno	–	–	–	19
Memorial Hospital Los Banos	–	–	–	3
Northern Inyo Hospital	–	–	–	–
San Joaquin Valley Rehab Hospital	–	–	–	–
VA - Central California Health Care System (VA Fresno)	–	–	–	1
Coroners and Medical Examiners				
Fresno County Coroner	–	–	–	39
Kings County Coroner	–	–	–	1
Madera County Coroner	–	–	–	–
Merced County Coroner	–	–	–	1
Tulare County Coroner	–	–	–	–



Regional and Partner	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
Nevada Region	69	43	90	211
25+ Potential Organ Donors				
Renown Regional Medical Center	53	33	71	136
5-24 Potential Organ Donors				
Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center	7	3	3	–
Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center	7	6	14	40
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
Northern Nevada Medical Center	2	1	2	16
Banner Churchill Community Hospital	–	–	–	5
Carson Tahoe Continuing Care Hospital	–	–	–	–
Carson Valley Medical Center	–	–	–	1
General: Nevada	–	–	–	–
Humboldt General Hospital	–	–	–	3
Mount Grant General Hospital	–	–	–	–
Renown South Meadows Medical Center	–	–	–	10
Tahoe Pacific Hospitals - North	–	–	–	–
VA - Reno VA (VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System)	–	–	–	–
Coroners and Medical Examiners				
Carson City Coroner (NV)	–	–	–	–
NorCal / Modesto Region	153	85	239	501
25+ Potential Organ Donors				
Doctors Medical Center Modesto	43	24	70	65
15-24 Potential Organ Donors				
San Joaquin General Hospital	21	15	43	14
Mercy Medical Center Redding	18	8	19	60
St. Joseph's Medical Center of Stockton	17	8	24	39
Memorial Medical Center	16	7	16	34
5-14 Potential Organ Donors				
Shasta Regional Medical Center	8	7	15	23
Enloe Medical Center	6	5	18	50
St. Joseph Hospital Eureka	6	2	5	24
Dameron Hospital	5	1	2	5
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
Oroville Hospital	4	3	14	8
Adventist Health Lodi Memorial	2	1	1	9
Emanuel Medical Center	2	1	1	26
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Modesto	2	1	5	10
Adventist Health Sonora	1	1	2	14
Central Valley Specialty Hospital	1	–	–	1
Sutter Coast Hospital	1	1	4	2
Alexander Cohen Hospice House	–	–	–	1
Adventist Health Clear Lake	–	–	–	6

Regional and Partner	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
NorCal/Modesto Region	153	85	239	501
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
Adventist Health Mendocino Coast	–	–	–	1
Adventist Health Ukiah Valley	–	–	–	3
Banner Lassen Medical Center	–	–	–	2
Community Hospice	–	–	–	–
Doctors Hospital of Manteca	–	–	–	2
Eastern Plumas Hospital Portola Campus	–	–	–	–
Fairchild Medical Center	–	–	–	4
Glenn Medical Center	–	–	–	2
Hospice of San Joaquin	–	–	–	–
Jerold Phelps Community Hospital	–	–	–	–
John C. Fremont Healthcare District	–	–	–	–
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Manteca	–	–	–	1
Mad River Community Hospital	–	–	–	4
Mammoth Hospital	–	–	–	–
Mayers Memorial Hospital	–	–	–	2
Mercy Hospice Mt. Shasta	–	–	–	–
Mercy Hospice Redding	–	–	–	1
Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta	–	–	–	5
Modoc Medical Center	–	–	–	1
Oak Valley District Hospital	–	–	–	1
Orchard Hospital	–	–	–	9
Plumas District Hospital	–	–	–	1
Redwood Memorial Hospital	–	–	–	5
Seneca District Hospital	–	–	–	–
Southern Inyo Hospital	–	–	–	–
St. Elizabeth Community Hospital	–	–	–	5
St. Joseph's Behavioral Health Center	–	–	–	–
Surprise Valley Community Hospital	–	–	–	–
Sutter Coast Home Care	–	–	–	–
Sutter Lakeside Hospital	–	–	–	5
Sutter Tracy Community Hospital	–	–	–	6
Trinity Hospital	–	–	–	–
Vibra Hospital of Northern California	–	–	–	2



Regional and Partner	Potential Organ Donors	Organ Donors	Organ Transplants	Tissue Donors
NorCal/Modesto Region	153	85	239	501
Coroners and Medical Examiners				
Butte County Coroner	–	–	–	1
Humboldt County Coroner (CA)	–	–	–	7
San Joaquin County Medical Examiner	–	–	–	1
Shasta County Coroner	–	–	–	–
Siskiyou County Coroner	–	–	–	–
Stanislaus County Coroner	–	–	–	34
South Bay Region	151	84	276	348
25+ Potential Organ Donors				
Regional Medical Center of San Jose	29	16	59	37
Stanford Health Care	25	16	57	36
15-24 Potential Organ Donors				
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center	21	12	32	32
5-14 Potential Organ Donors				
Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula	12	7	29	46
Lucile Salter Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford	12	5	14	10
Good Samaritan Hospital	10	6	20	35
El Camino Health, Mountain View Hospital	8	4	8	15
Natividad Medical Center	8	7	18	11
Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System	7	2	6	19
Dominican Hospital	5	4	18	22
0-4 Potential Organ Donors				
Kaiser Foundation Hospital Santa Clara	4	1	2	26
Kaiser Foundation Hospital San Jose	3	1	6	26
St. Louise Regional Hospital	3	3	7	11
O'Connor Hospital	2	–	–	7
Watsonville Community Hospital	2	–	–	1
El Camino Health, Los Gatos Hospital	–	–	–	1
Hazel Hawkins Memorial Hospital	–	–	–	3
Mee Memorial Hospital	–	–	–	1
VA - Veterans Administration Palo Alto Health Care System	–	–	–	5
Coroners and Medical Examiners				
Santa Clara County Medical Examiner	–	–	–	4
Grand Total	769	411	1177	2150

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