

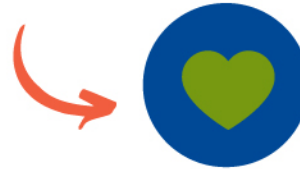
THE RENO REFLECTION

May/June Recap 2024

NEWSLETTER

Written by Maxwell | Designed by Brooke

Welcome to our reignited and revamped Donor Network West Nevada Newsletter, the Reno Reflection. It's our privilege to bring you the best of our community and its incredible individuals and families. Stay tuned every month to stay up to date with how you can help save lives in Nevada!



"Reno Reflection"
Newsletter Library

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." - **Eleanor Roosevelt**



HOME RUN

FOR LIFE



Blake Lalli

Manager and Hero

On June 28th, Reno Aces Manager Blake Lalli, who donated one of his kidneys to his girlfriend Aleah Hartung during Spring Training, took a trip around the bases as part of Donor Network West's Home Run For Life Ceremony.

After discovering Aleah needed a second kidney transplant, Blake didn't hesitate to get tested. Against miraculous odds, he turned out to be a match! They underwent successful kidney donation and transplantation surgeries in March.

"Donor Network West is fortunate to work with passionate organ donation advocates like Aleah and Blake who share their stories to inspire others to join the registry to become organ donors or to become living donor."

Janice Whaley, president and CEO of Donor Network West.

Anyone 18+ years old and in overall good physical and mental health can be a living donor.

[Click here to learn more about living kidney donation.](#)



Press Release:





Home Run For Life

A Life Full of Gratitude

In 2021, local army veteran Chris Connolly went into liver failure. he became so sick that he was put on life support, but thankfully, he received a liver transplant that saved his life.

As a Donor Network West ambassador, Chris continues to honor his liver donor's legacy of generosity by helping other transplant recipients and those waiting for a transplant. Tonight, Chris takes his home run for life.

Thank you, RenoAces, for consistently paving the way for our community  

**STRIKE OUT
THE WAITLIST!**

Join the Registry! 



"I have a second chance to become the person I always knew I could be,"

-Chris Connolly

Watch the Full Video here:



Mary's Wish

Reno, Nevada physician, Dennis Yamamoto, MD, married his wife, Mary (Obersky) Yamamoto, in 1973. Both from large families, their wedding boasted a guest list of 375 people and was a multi-day affair. It was a big start to more than 50 years of marriage as they pursued careers--Dr. Yamamoto in medicine and Mary in social work--raised their twin children and celebrated becoming grandparents to four grandsons.



In February 2020, at the age of 67, Mary tragically died after being struck by a car while walking on the sidewalk in Phoenix, Arizona. Having had the conversation with Mary about her wish to be an organ donor, Dr. Yamamoto persisted in working swiftly with the trauma care providers to ensure his wife's decision to be an organ donor would be realized. As a result, Mary's liver saved the life of a mother of three, and her heart and lung tissues were donated to scientific research laboratories.

**If you would like to
learn more about
Mary's Wish, please
click here!**



2023

Report to Community
HOPE NOW

It is our privilege to bring you our official Report-To-Community for the 2023 year! In this RTC, you will find stories that inspired our communities, statistics that will blow you away, and a multitude of reminders that our mission imperative for our community and the nation.

The work you do every day for this organization has led to the incredible results that you will find here. It is an honor to share the incredible job our organization does with our community, and we hope you feel that same pride as well!

CHECK IT OUT!



Proud of
Who We Are



#ShareTheLove



A Word with Annie Stickel

Pride is a time of year focused on being proud of who you are and who you choose to love. It's about celebrating the continuous success and prosperity of our LGBTQIA+ friends, family, community members, and those worldwide. Ensuring that our LGBTQIA+ brothers and sisters feel empowered to be their most authentic selves, in safe environments across all walks of life that must be provided to everyone.

These are some of the imperative messages that our distinguished Director of Community Engagement, Annie Stickel, enriched our community with during this Pride Month. Listen as Annie discusses Pride Month and what it means for our country, community, and organization!



Stories of Hope told anew!

We are excited to announce that our digital display made its debut at the Community Health Alliance on Wells Avenue. While people wait in the lobby, they can access this kiosk and learn about organ, eye and tissue donation as well as read personal stories from donors and transplant recipients.

This is such a great opportunity for people to gain an understanding of the importance registered donors can make. Thank you to the team at Community Health Alliance for your help in advancing our live-saving mission!

COMMUNITY
HEALTH
ALLIANCE



Check out their site





Transplant Games of America!

Team CalNev

We signed the Transplant Games of America flag at our San Ramon headquarters! The flag travels across the nation, gaining signatures from participants and other OPOs. The Transplant Games are held every two years around the country and this year Team CalNev is headed to Birmingham, Alabama for the 2024 games. Cheer on Team CalNev starting July 5th! 🏆



**TRANSPLANT GAMES
of AMERICA 2024**
Birmingham, Alabama





Fresh Faces, Same Mission

We had the privilege of introducing our incredible new hires to the ins and outs of Donor Network West, our mission, and how the #GiftOfLife fuels our cause daily.



We take pride in maintaining a culture of teamwork, integrity, and passion for driving quality and changing lives. We encourage visionary ideas that make a difference in the lives of others.





YOU'RE NOT ALONE **Transplant Support Group**

The world of organ donation and transplantation is a beautiful miracle, providing us with the ability to save and heal lives as a community. However, the #GiftOfLife is often connected to tragedy and circumstances that are hard for us to overcome on our own.

Whether you are a recipient, a living donor, or a family member of a donor, you're more than welcome to share this space with like-minded individuals to gain support, encouragement, comfort, and information that can help you through your process.

Join us every Third Tuesday of the month

4:30 PM PST in person at:
5440 Reno Corporate Dr., Reno, NV 89511

Via Zoom

<https://dnwest.zoom.us/j/84733307254>



BEST OF SIERRA NEVADA VOTING

At Donor Network West, we're all incredibly grateful to have been nominated in two categories in the Best of Sierra Nevada Contest.

The work of our incredible teams across our DSA alongside our phenomenal communities has led us to be nominated in the Non-Profit Organization category and the Best Customer Service category!

Voting has closed, thank you to all who voted and supported us, and furthering our mission!





**DONOR
NETWORK WEST
FOUNDATION**
RUN / WALK
— 5k —

**STRIDE
FOR HOPE**

5k.dnwest.org

JOIN US!

Saturday, September 14th
San Ramon, CA | Bishop Ranch



Saturday, September 21st
Fresno, CA | Woodward Park

Stride into a world of hope, inspiration, and purpose at our annual Donor Network West Foundation Run/Walks, our dynamic fundraisers that honor the extraordinary gift of life from donor heroes and families, raising awareness about the importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation.

This event is more than a run... It's a celebration of resilience, community, and the profound impact each participant can make towards providing hope now to those in need of a life-saving transplant.

We're so excited and proud to host our first Donor Network West Foundation 5K Run/Walk in Fresno, CA! Register and get your tickets now for early bird pricing!

Click here and join one of our Run/Walks



It is with great excitement that we cordially invite you to our upcoming Run/Walk Kick-Off Meetings!

These inspiring and empowering in-person gatherings are perfect for those interested in becoming team captains or for those looking for opportunities for you to learn more about how to get involved with our Run/Walks in any capacity.

We will share tips and tricks on how to share your powerful story, inspire your community and motive your loved ones in making a difference. You will also get the chance to meet others who are participating in Run/Walk as well.

Register for the gathering of your choosing by clicking the button below.
We look forward to getting Run/Walk ready with you!

Fresno Event Details:

Date: Saturday, July 20th

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM

Location: 6721 N. Willow Ave., Suite 104, Fresno, CA 93710



San Ramon Event Details:

Date: Saturday, July 13th

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM

Location: 12667 Alcosta Blvd, 5th floor, Suite 500., San Ramon, CA



Click Here!



**Donor Network West
Foundation Run/Walk
Kick Off RSVP**



♥ **follow @mydnwest on social media** ♥
and don't miss a beat!



There are plenty of events and celebrations that we're privileged to be a part of! The best way to stay updated on everything we have going on is to follow us on social media @MyDNWest across all platforms! Our Instagram is a fantastic place to start, or maybe you enjoy Facebook. Either way, we're everywhere, and we'll see you there!