

THE BEST OF DONOR NETWORK WEST

Ask me how you can

SAVE A LIFE

DONORNETWORKWEST.org

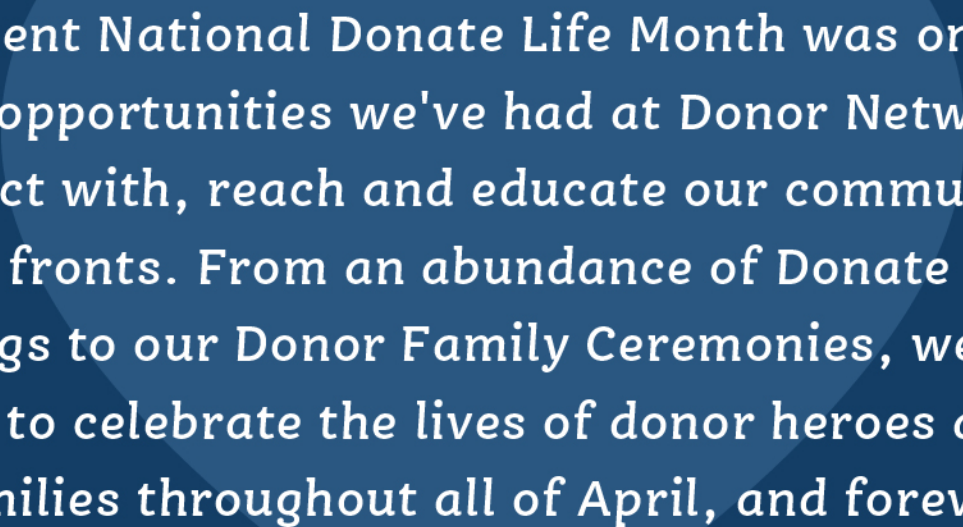
Donate Life Month Recap

*Written by Maxwell | Designed by Brooke
Property of the Marketing and Communications Department*


(April 2026)



DONOR NETWORK WEST



This recent National Donate Life Month was one of the greatest opportunities we've had at Donor Network West to connect with, reach and educate our communities on so many fronts. From an abundance of Donate Life Flag raisings to our Donor Family Ceremonies, we were honored to celebrate the lives of donor heroes and their families throughout all of April, and forever.



We hope you enjoy reading this monthly newsletter as much as we enjoyed creating it to educate the world about the #GiftOfLife



Visit our
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Best of Donor Network West
Newsletter Library

Donate Life Month this year was Brilliant

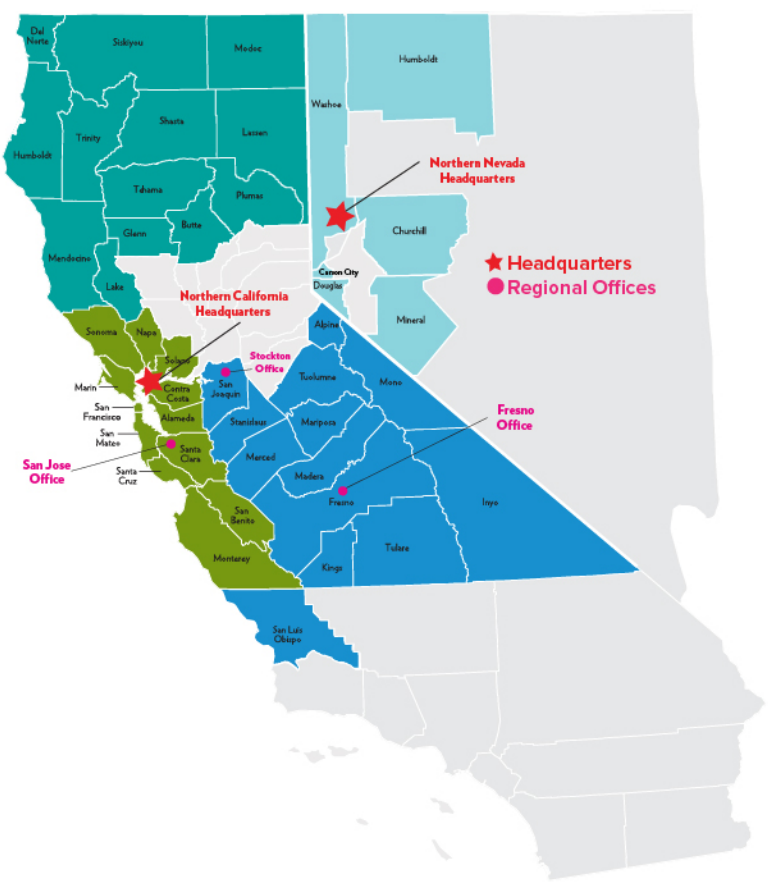
Meeting our donor families and transplant recipients where they are in their journeys is essential to our collaborative success with our hospital partners and transplant centers, and this month gave us ample opportunity to do so.

We spent the month hosting flag raisings, city and county proclamations, city hall lightings, Donor Families Ceremonies, and more, leading to 110 total events, 18 flag raisings and 12 proclamations across our donation service area. Check out some of the events that spread awareness about the gift of life!



Click here to see how Donate Life Month made its way to your community!

110 total events, 18 flag raisings and 12 Proclamations across our donation service area.



BAY REGION

64
EVENTS

6
FLAG RAISES

5
PROCLAMATIONS

VALLEY REGION

27
EVENTS

6
FLAG RAISES

6
PROCLAMATIONS

NORTH CALIFORNIA REGION

2
EVENTS

1
FLAG RAISES

0
PROCLAMATIONS

NORTHERN NEVADA REGION

17
EVENTS

5
FLAG RAISES

1
PROCLAMATIONS

DONATE LIFE MONTH - EVENT COVERAGE RECAP



DONATE LIFE MONTH - EVENT COVERAGE RECAP



Making an Earthquake Saving Lives

To accomplish something for the first time in history leaves a mark on the world forever. These marks, legacies we leave, are exemplary opportunities to educate, inspire, and elevate the communities we reside in.

A legacy such as this was created and etched into the city of San Jose, California, by way of the San Jose Earthquakes this Donate Life Month, who became the first professional sports organization in the United States of America to exalt the Donate Life Flag in their professional sporting arena, this being the beloved PayPal Park, home of the Earthquakes.

We were joined by Stanford Children’s Health team, El Camino Health’s team, a multitude of our Donor Network West Ambassadors. Karlina Ott and her family represented Andrew Bedard, a San Jose Earthquakes beloved donor hero, Shamekka Marty, kidney transplant recipient and chronic illness advocate, and many more incredible people.

Dr. Whaley and Hoa had the honor of completing the coin toss for this 2026 U.S. Open Cup match, an incredible way to cap off the afternoon and get the night started.

We’re so grateful that the Donate Life Flag found its home inside of PayPal Park, thanks to the incredible San Jose Earthquakes.




DONOR NETWORK WEST

SHARE A COMMON GOAL

JOIN THE REGISTRY!
Heal a life through organ, eye and tissue donation



DONORNETWORKWEST.org

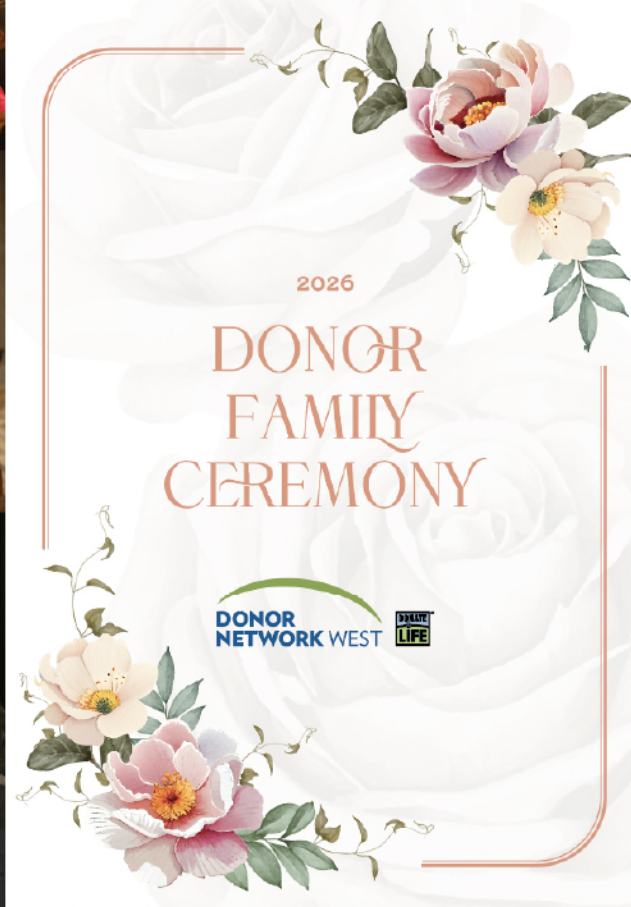
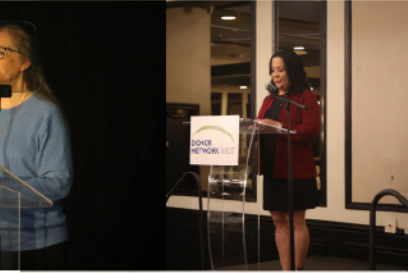


Check out our Jumbotron Animation

To Honor Your Hero

We had the privilege of meeting our donor families where they are on their journeys at our Donor Family Ceremonies.

These events took place across our donation service area in Fresno, Pleasanton, and Reno. These events were emotional afternoons full of love for the heroes who are with us in spirit us & saved lives, and we're honored that our donor families give us the opportunity and trust to join them in honoring their loved ones.



Smile, You're Saving Lives on Camera

In order to fulfill our mission of saving and healing lives across Northern California and Northern Nevada, our message and education about the gift of life needs to be reached far and wide, outside of our echo chambers.

Through a multitude of media opportunities, we're fortunate to have made headlines this Donate Life Month in order to spread awareness across news stations, podcasts, press releases, and many more media outreach methods, check them out below!

[Donor Mom and Dad to Represent Donor Network West at Reno Aces' Home Run for Life Game Friday, May 1](#)

Our Sports Central

Sparks residents Lynn and Rob Histing will be honored at a Reno Aces Home Run for Life game on May 1, 2026, in recognition of their daughter Katie, whose legacy and eye donation through Donor Network West restored sight to two people. Donor Network West, in partnership with the Reno Aces, shares stories like Katie's to inspire the community to register as organ, eye, and tissue donors.



[Donor Network West Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Life-Saving Impact Across Northern California and Northern Nevada](#)

Associated Press: Press Releases

Donor Network West released 2025 annual report.



[KPIX-TV \(San Francisco, CA\) - CBS News Bay Area: Evening Edition - 5:30PM](#)

KPIX-TV (San Francisco, CA)

One of the 49ers most lovable players, William 'Bubba' Paris has transitioned to a different uniform. Paris is in the trenches, working for Donor Network West. April has been Organ Donor Month and Paris is helping to get the word out.



[KKOH-AM \(Reno, NV\)](#)

KKOH-AM (Reno, NV)

Matt Graves, VP of tissue operations speaks with host, Ryan Nutter to talk about national Donate Life Month.



[KCBS-AM \(San Francisco, CA\)](#)

KCBS-AM (San Francisco, CA)

The blue and green flag was flown to raise awareness about the importance of organ donation. The flag was flown during the Quakes game, a first for a professional sports team.

[Kidney Recipient Shares Powerful Story on KMJ During Donate Life Month](#)

By Gabe Navarro | KMJ-AM (Fresno, CA)

(KMJ) — National Donate Life Month took focus at KMJ's Afternoon Drive as representatives from Donor Network West joined Philip Teresi in studio to raise awareness about the life saving impact of organ, eye, and tissue donation....

[WiLD 94.9](#)

KYLD-FM (San Francisco, CA)

E'Tiffany Jones, Vice President of Marketing and Communications, spoke on the public affairs show on Iheart Radio, discussing the need for organ, eye and tissue donation in recognition of Donate Life Month.

[Flag-raising at Packard Children's Hospital Honors Lasting Legacy of Organ Donation](#)

Healthier, Happy Lives Blog

Healthcare administrators and staff were joined by representatives from Donor Network West along with patients and their families along with those personally impacted by organ donation.



Children's Health

Flag-raising at Packard Children's Hospital Honors Lasting Legacy of Organ Donation
4/29, 2025 | Larrene Jenkins
DNWS



[Carson Tahoe raises Donate Life flag in honor of National Donate Life Month](#)

Carson Now

Carson Tahoe Health, in partnership with Donor Network West, honored National Donate Life Month with a flag-raising ceremony at Carson Tahoe Regional Medical Center on Thursday, April 9.



HEALTH & WELLNESS
Carson Tahoe raises Donate Life flag in honor of National Donate Life Month

By Carson Tahoe Health | Monday, April 11, 2026 | 12:00pm



[Healthy Alameda: How to Become an Organ and Tissue Donor](#)

Alameda Post

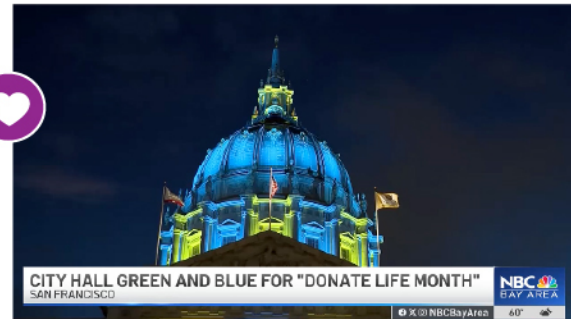
This National Donate Life Month, imagine the hope you can offer and the lives you can touch. Donor Network West will host a table at Alameda Hospital on April 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., where you can learn more about organ and tissue donation, address concerns and register in person to become a donor.



[KNTV-TV \(San Jose, CA\) - NBC Bay Area News at 11](#)

KNTV-TV (San Jose, CA)

Donor Network West lit San Francisco City Hall blue and green in honor of National Donate Life Month. Organizers hope the event raises awareness about organ, eye and tissue donation.



[Organ donor and recipient partner to host weekend 5k fundraiser in Visalia](#)

By Briana Byus | KSEE-TV (Fresno, CA)

Tulare County Sheriff's Office colleagues are organizing a fundraiser to raise awareness about organ donation. The money they raise will go to support the National Kidney Organization and Donor Network West.



[Med Watch: Healthcare Heroes](#)

KGPE-TV (Fresno, CA)

Dr. Arash Afshinnik is being recognized for helping families find hope in life's most challenging moments. When recovery is impossible, his team works in close partnership with Donor Network West to help families navigate one of the hardest conversations possible—organ donation. In February, Dr. Afshinnik received the 2026 Industry Partner Award at Donor Network West's Heart of Hope Gala.



Reno Arch lights up for Donate Life Month

By Katherine Nowicki | KRXI-TV (Reno, NV)

E'Tiffany Jones with Donor Network West joined Marianna Daniele to talk about lighting the Reno Arch blue and green throughout April to raise awareness organ, eye and tissue donation.



Lauren Martelle Interview

KTVN-TV (Reno, NV) - 2 News

Aimee Arellano of KTVN-TV Reno spoke with Donor Network West Ambassador Lauren Martelle on the significance of the Reno Arch Lighting and what it represents.



Enloe Health raises Donate Life flag in annual ceremony, marks National Donate Life Month

By Hannah Gutierrez | KRCR-TV (Redding/Chico, CA)

April is National Donate Life Month, a time dedicated to educating the community about the significance of organ, eye, and tissue donation. Enloe Health hosted its annual Donate Life Flag Ceremony on Thursday to raise awareness of its impact. The event also highlighted the story of Shasta County resident Danielle Coleman, who reflected on the impact of organ donation. Although he was not registered as an organ donor, Coleman says that she was approached by Donor Network West to consider donation on his behalf.





Register Today!



Sponsorship Form:



Recap Photos and Video:



Join Us!



Saturday, June 6th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Free Evening | Day of Remembrance | Community Gathering

Join us this June at the iconic Virginia Street Bridge in Reno, Nevada for a unique community gathering! Share a meal, stories, and meaningful conversations about the power of organ, eye, and tissue donation. Together at one table, donor families, recipients, and advocates will unite to honor generosity, celebrate second chances, and inspire hope! Don't miss this unforgettable evening of connection and impact.

**Virginia St. Bridge
Reno, Nevada**

Learn More!

TogetherAsOneNV.org



3rd Annual CHIPPING AWAY 4 HOPE Golf Tournament

Chipping Away 4 Hope Golf Tournament

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026

BLACKHAWK COUNTRY CLUB | Lakeside Course

599 Blackhawk Club Drive, Danville, CA 94506

The Chipping Away 4 Hope Golf Tournament is honoring the life of Tyler Nelson, a courageous young man with cystic fibrosis who received a life-saving double lung and liver transplant and dedicated himself to raising awareness for organ donation — embodying the very hope this tournament celebrates.

Join Donor Network West Foundation for our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament, hosted by former San Francisco 49er William "Bubba" Paris. Play in honor of donors, in support of families, and in hope for the thousands of patients waiting for a second chance at life.

Chipping Away 4 Hope Golf Tournament

BLACKHAWK COUNTRY CLUB | Lakeside Course

Tournament Format
4–Person Scramble

Program

Registration: 10:00 AM
Shotgun Start: 11:00 AM
Cocktail Hour: 4:00 PM
Dinner Reception: 5:00 PM

Foursomes

\$2,000

The tournament fee is all inclusive of golf, cart, lunch, on-course refreshments and dinner.

Individual Golf

\$550

Dinner

\$200

Register Today!




SAVE THE DATES! 2026

KEY UPCOMING EVENTS

Together As One
Reno, NV
June 6th, 2026



The "Chipping Away 4 Hope" Golf Classic
Danville, CA
June 29th, 2026



Stride for Hope Run/Walk
San Ramon, CA
September 12th, 2026



Stride for Hope Run/Walk
Fresno, CA
September 26th, 2026



SCAN QR CODE
FOR MORE INFO

Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month!

May is here, and with it comes an imperative time of the year - Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! This annual celebration is an opportunity to honor the rich cultural heritage and contributions of the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities in the United States. Supporting organ and tissue donation within the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities is particularly vital due to matching donors with recipients of similar ethnicity and cultural background. Ethnicity and cultural factors play a role in organ and tissue compatibility. More donors from the same ethnicity and culture increase the chances of finding suitable matches for patients in dire need!



[Click here for AANHPI Shareables](#)

In the closing of National Donate Life Month, we're proud to present our 2025 Report to Community.

This powerful annual report is titled "We are the Mission", as 2025 was an excellent reflection on how together, donor heroes, donor families, transplant recipients, hospital partners, and transplant centers come together to make the gift of life possible.



Report to Community

WE ARE THE MISSION



Take a moment to dive into the incredible moments and achievements that took place over the course of 2025, Click here:



DONOR NETWORK WEST



@mydnwest

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!

