

THE BEST OF DONOR NETWORK WEST

A man and a woman are posing outdoors at what appears to be a community event or festival. The man, on the left, is wearing a bright green t-shirt, blue jeans, a white baseball cap, and has a beard. He is holding a large pink circular sign with the word 'DONOR' written on it. The woman, on the right, is wearing a brown jacket, a blue baseball cap with a rainbow logo, sunglasses, and is also holding a large pink circular sign with the word 'DONOR' written on it. She is holding blue and green pom-poms. In the background, there are white tents, a blue umbrella, and a sign that says 'FOUNDATION'. The scene is set on a grassy area with trees in the distance.

September Newsletter
2026

Written by Maxwell Egbujor | Designed by Brooke Maloney
Property of Donor Network West



DONOR NETWORK WEST

Welcome back, Donor Network West family, to the Summer of Saving Lives! We had the privilege this July of sharing the stories of incredible donor heroes who impacted their communities in life and chose to give the ultimate gift in their passing. Stay with us as we gear up for the annual Stride For Hope Run/Walk in September, and get ready for National Multiethnic Donor Awareness Month this August!



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



Visit our
shareables page here

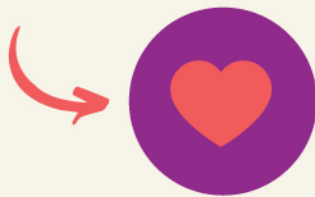


Best of Donor Network West
Newsletter Library

CONNECT TO PURPOSE



Deepti Bahel's First Run/Walk



Take a moment to read the beautiful article Deepti, our new ambassador, wrote about her experience at her very first Run-Walk.

It's deeply moving and such a powerful reminder of the impact we can make simply by showing up, taking that first step, and being there for one another.

Thank you, Deepti, for sharing your story and reminding us why what we do matters.

DONOR
NETWORK WEST
FOUNDATION
RUN/WALK



SAN RAMON
CHECK OUT THE PHOTO LIBRARY



Check out a quick recap of the Fresno Run/Walk, and stay tuned for plenty more videos on TikTok!

STRIDE FOR HOPE

Walking to honor organ, eye and tissue donor heroes



FRESNO
CHECK OUT THE PHOTO LIBRARY



We ran. We walked. We honored donor heroes. We celebrated their families. We cheered on the transplant recipients who live on because of these donor heroes. Donor Network West Foundation's Annual Stride for Hope Run/Walk returned for its 16th year in San Ramon and 3rd year in Fresno, raising funds and awareness for the organ donation community.

On September 12, the Donate Life community of Northern California and Northern Nevada, spent the morning and afternoon at the Rancho San Ramon Community Park for the Stride for Hope 5K Annual Run/Walk. Over 600 runners, walkers, advocates, sponsors, volunteers, and staff came together at one of the most unforgettable Run/Walks we've ever hosted over this 16-year experience.

On September 26 in Woodward Park in Fresno, California completed the Hat-trick for the Stride For Hope Run/Walk, as the Donate Life Community came together for the 3rd time with over 250+ participants.

Rancho San Ramon Community Park and Woodward Park have now become homes to the Donate Life Community in California, and we are so honored and grateful to see it come to fruition.



Hispanic

Heritage Month

AMAT
Association for Multicultural Affairs
in Transplantation

Unidos, Somos Más

**DONOR
NETWORK WEST**

National Hispanic Heritage Month

Observed annually from September 15 – October 15, National Hispanic Heritage Month is a great time to celebrate and honor the generosity of Hispanic donors and their families, while also underscoring the critical need for people from this diverse community to register as organ, eye and tissue donors. Myths regarding donation continue to be major barriers preventing many Latines from becoming registered donors and therefore, can add to the reluctance of joining the organ donation registry.

The need is great. Of the over 20,000 Californians on the organ transplant waiting list, 44 percent of the Californians waiting are Hispanic. Like other minorities, Hispanics have the best chance of a successful organ transplant if the donor is of the same ethnic background. We invite you to explore, utilize and share these National Hispanic Heritage Month materials within your communities and help Donor Network West spread the awareness about our life-saving mission.

Shareables Kit 2026



DONOR NETWORK WEST *presents*

Faith in Action: Hope, Healing, and Legacy

Christian Tabernacle Church 9330 Walnut St, Oakland, CA 94603

Thursday 11/12/2026 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

NATIONAL DONOR SABBATH



Faith calls people to serve others beyond themselves. While registering as a donor is important, faith-inspired conversations with loved ones ensure that a person's values, wishes, and legacy can be honored when it matters most. This event will explore how organ and tissue donation becomes a tangible expression of compassion, generosity, and hope that can continue long after a person's lifetime.

Donor Sabbath is a time for faith leaders from all denominations to unite and raise awareness about organ and tissue donation to save lives. We encourage faith leaders to promote organ and tissue donation amongst their members by:

- Displaying our posters at their institution's facilities
- Placing messages of donation on bulletins
- Inviting our speakers to share their donation story
- Hosting a donation registration table

Learn More





DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The beginning of November marks an important time of the year for many families in our communities. Day of the Dead, also known as Dia de los Muertos, is a Mexican holiday that takes place on the first two days of November. This multi-day celebration involves family and friends gathering to pay their respects to remember and honor friends and family members who have passed away. Dia de los Muertos represents a time dedicated to honoring our loved ones by celebrating their life. There are many traditions, including making an altar or shrine, making special foods, and leaving gifts for your loved one.

**We invite you to explore, utilize, and share these
Dia de los Muertos / Day of the Dead materials within your communities.**



DONORNETWORKWEST

2026 *Holiday Card*
ART CONTEST



Time to get Artsy!

Welcome back to the annual Holiday Card Art Contest for 2026! This contest brings together the heart of our mission, saving and healing lives, with the incredible talents of the students in our communities.

The love that is given by a donor hero through organ, eye, and tissue donation is the gift of life that grows across our communities, providing transplant recipients everywhere with the second chance at life they deserve.

This competition is LIVE and and closes November 9th for voting! Find all the details your students, classmates and children need to participate:



Welcome to Our New Home

Donor Network West had the privilege of welcoming the team from across our service area to our new home in Northern California.

It was a week we'll never forget as a unified office under one roof. We made time to learn about, appreciate, and enjoy the new space throughout our spirit week, hosted by our Learning and Development department. This week consisted of a taco party, restorative yoga, and so much more.

This isn't just a new building or innovative workspace; it's a symbol of a brighter future for countless patients desperately waiting for life-saving transplants and donor families finding comfort and peace in their loved one's heroic decision to save lives in their passing. But the current reality is stark. The number of available organs falls tragically short of the immense need. Donor Network West's vision for this new center is a powerful response to this challenge, and we are so proud and grateful to see it come to fruition.

Our new home stands to be a beacon of hope for donor heroes, their families, transplant recipients, and those who make the #GiftOfLife possible, everywhere.



CHECK OUT OUR
NCAHQ VIDEO

Volunteers in Asia visit Norris Canyon

This August, Donor Network West had the privilege of hosting Volunteers in Asia, introducing medical students from Asia who are exploring a wide range of social issues through the lens of healthcare.

These outstanding medical students had the opportunity to tour our clinical facility in San Ramon and learn all about the facilitation and processes of the #GiftOfLife: organ, eye, and tissue donation, by way of learning stations, and listening directly to our Donor Network West and #DonateLife Ambassadors, transplant recipients whose lives were dramatically improved by the donations they received.

In the future, these educational tours will take place in our new home, and we're so excited to continue to find innovative ways to educate the world about organ, eye, and tissue donation.



20 Million Donors Said YES!

As the State of California achieved the remarkable accomplishment of 20 Million Registered donors out of 40 million residents, Donate Life California and the four major OPOs of the state of California came together in the state capitol, Sacramento, to not only celebrate this achievement together, but push forth the work even further to advance the elimination of the national transplant waiting list.

Half of the great state of California carrying the iconic 'pink dot' is only the beginning of saving more lives.



Tyler's Home Run Day!

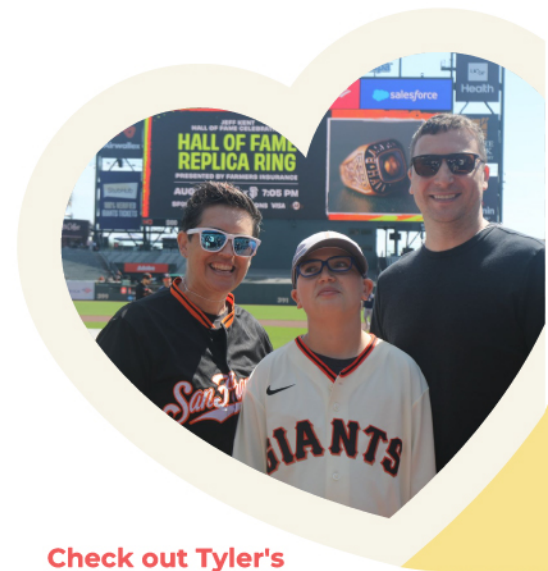
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Donor Network West and Stanford Medicine Children's Health came together with the San Francisco Giants for the 27th year of the annual Donate Life Game Day at Oracle Park.

It is a day when we are privileged to celebrate the #GiftOfLife by honoring a transplant recipient whose journey of perseverance and triumph goes hand in hand with the generosity and love of a donor hero who made a second chance at life possible. This 27th Donate Life Game Day celebrated Tyler Briend and his family: David, Jennie, and their amazing service dog, Logan!

14-year-old Tyler was born with an undiagnosed congenital heart defect and was airlifted to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital when he was just two days old. To manage his condition, Tyler has undergone multiple open-heart surgeries and cardiac catheterizations. In March of 2024, the Betty Irene Moore Children's Heart Center and StanfordChild Transplant Center teams performed a heart transplantation for Tyler. He made a speedy recovery and was discharged in thirteen days.

Tyler has never let his heart condition stop him. He loves playing hockey and has danced the night away at the StanfordChildrens prom three years in a row. We are so proud to call him the 27th SF Giants Play Ball Kid!



Check out Tyler's awesome day, here:



[Donor Network West Rounds out Executive Leadership Team with Corina B. Clark as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer](#)

PR Newswire

Donor Network West announced the appointment of Corina B. Clark as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.



[Donor Parents to Represent Donor Network West at Reno Aces' Final Home Run for Life Game August](#)

MLB (Major League Baseball)

The Thompson-Crew family will honor the life of their 8-year-old son Griffin and represent Donor Network West as the Reno Aces' final Home Run for Life participant Friday, Aug. 7. Griffin, a kindhearted 8-year-old boy, made the decision to become an organ donor just days before he passed unexpectedly, giving the gift of life to three individuals through his selfless decision.



[A New Heart, a Big League Moment](#)

Healthier, Happy Lives Blog

The Giants' annual Donate Life Day game, held in collaboration with Donor Network West and Stanford Children's Health, shines a spotlight on the thousands of children across the country who are waiting for lifesaving organ, eye and tissue transplants.



[Members Highlighted for Outreach, Promotions, and New Programs](#)

AARC Times Magazine

AARC member Corina Clark, MS, BSRT, RRT, was featured in an article on the CityBiz website for her recent appointment to vice president and chief operating officer for Donor Network West, an organization that facilitates organ and tissue recovery for transplantation and research in Northern California and Northern Nevada.



[KTVU Fox 2 News at 4pm National Minority Donor Awareness Month](#)

KTVU-TV (Oakland, CA)

On August 20th, Donor Network West's Vice President of Communications, Marketing and Community Engagement, E'Tiffany Jones, had the privilege of joining Heather Holmes of KTVU to discuss the tremendous milestone that the state of California has achieved together: 20 million registered donors — about half of the state — signed up to save lives through organ, eye and tissue donation.



The Alliance Committed Leader Award - Aninda Dutta

The Organ Donation and Transplantation Alliance has recognized our very own Senior Vice President of Data and Organizational Strategy, Aninda Dutta, with the Committed Leader Award!

This award honors a leader in the organ donation and transplantation community who devotes significant time and expertise to advancing nationwide collaboration, engaged learning, and bold initiatives within the Alliance. Congratulations, Aninda!





@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!

