

A Faith Leaders' Guide to Supporting Organ Donation

Donor Sabbath is a three-day observance celebrated each year two weekends before Thanksgiving. This tradition is a great opportunity for faith leaders to inform their congregations about the lifesaving power and need for organ, eye, and tissue donors, encourage people of faith to talk about their wishes with their families, and help sign up organ donors. Below are statistics about organ donation that you can share with faith communities and steps you can take to increase the number of registered donors within your communities of faith.

Facts about organ donation



Every donor can save up to **8 lives** and enhance over **75 more.**¹



Another person is added to the national transplant waiting list every



17 people die each day waiting for an organ transplant.¹



90% of
Americans
support organ
donation,
yet only
60% are
signed up
as donors.1



ean sign
up as an
organ donor,
no matter their
health status
or religion.²

- 1 https://www.organdonor.gov/learn/organ-donation-statistics
- 2 https://www.organdonor.gov/learn/who-can-donate

What can I do?

- Teach your congregation about the lifesaving benefits of organ donation and the urgent need for more registered donors by sharing HRSA's video, <u>Organ Donation and Transplantation: How</u> <u>Does it Work?</u>
- **Introduce your congregation to DoNation** and encourage them to participate in scorecard activities that raise awareness of the need for organ donors.

- State your strong support for organ donation as an act of compassion and generosity.
- **Set an example** by sharing your organ donor status with your congregation.
- Normalize organ donation by encouraging congregants to share their organ donor status.
- Share a link to your state's donor registry in communications with your congregation.
- Post about organ donation on your religious community's social media accounts using HRSA's turnkey social media graphics.



No matter what you believe, believe in giving the gift of life.



