Giving While Living: All About Living Organ Donation



Each year, organ transplants save thousands of lives. And every transplant starts with a donor. Most organ donors are deceased, but some people give while they're alive.

lives saved by living donors in 2022

of living donations are directed, meaning the donor chooses the recipient. Often it's a family member or friend. Non-directed donations go to anyone in need.

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people in the U.S. are on the national transplant waiting list because there are far more people who need transplants than organs available.

of the people waiting on a transplant need a kidney

people waiting for a transplant die every day

Someone is added to the waiting list minutes

Did You Know?



People have two kidneys, but one can keep a healthy body going strong.



When a donor gives part of their liver, the part they keep and the part they donate both grow to full size.

Recovery for Living Donors

After recovering from surgery, living donors can resume life as usual.







How	long
until	l can

	Leave the hospital	Drive a car	Lift heavy items
Kidney	2-3 Days	2 Weeks	6-12 Weeks
Liver	5 Days	2-4 Weeks	8-12 Weeks



You Can Live and Help Live

Organ donation surgery is low-risk, so most living donors go on to live active, healthy lives.



Learn more about living donation at organdonor.gov.

