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**Facts about Donation and Transplantation**

* Nearly **124,000** people are currently waiting for an organ transplant in the U.S.; more than 22,000 are in California.
* One organ donor can save the lives of up to eight people by donating the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas and small bowel.
* On average, one tissue donor can save or enhance the lives of up to **50** people by donating corneas, skin, bones, and heart valves, among others.
* Approximately **79** organ transplants take place every day in the U.S.
* Patients are matched with a donor depending on **the severity of their illness, body size, tissue type, blood type and other important medical information.**
* Over **40,000** patients have their sight restored every year through corneal transplants.
* A living donor can provide a kidney or a portion of their liver, lung, pancreas or intestine.
* More than one third of all deceased donors are 50 or older. People of all ages and medical histories should consider themselves potential donors.
* On average, **18** patients die every day while waiting simply because the organ they needed did not become available in time.
* The need for transplants is disproportionately high among minority populations. African-Americans, Hispanics and Asians have higher incidence of conditions such as high blood pressure or diabetes, both of which can lead to the need for a kidney transplant.
* Every major religion in the United States supports organ, eye and tissue donation as one of the highest expressions of compassion and generosity.
* To register to be an organ, eye and tissue donor sign up at the DMV or visit [www.donateLIFEcalifornia.org](http://www.donatelifecalifornia.org/), or its Spanish counterpart [www.donevidacalifornia.org/](http://www.donevidacalifornia.org/).