



## National Donate Life Month 2022 Fact Sheet

### Organ Donation Facts

- Every 9 minutes, a new person is added to the national organ donor waiting list.
- Sadly, 17 people die each day while waiting for an organ transplant.
- **In Wisconsin**, there are currently **more than 1,500 people** on the waiting list for an organ transplant. **Nationally** there are **more than 106,000**. To help put that into perspective, that is over 7,000 more people than it would take to fill Lambeau Field and Fiserv Forum, combined.
- Of the more than 1,500 people on the waiting list in Wisconsin, more than 500 come from diverse communities.
- Black and African American individuals are the largest minority population in need of organ transplants. These communities experiencing higher rates of diabetes and high blood pressure, increasing the risk of organ failure and the need for transplants.
- The shortage of organs persists, despite the fact that over 90% of Americans voice support for organ, tissue and eye donation. This is because too few members of the public (60% nationally) have taken the step to register to be donors or discuss their donation wishes with their loved ones.
- Versiti Organ and Tissue facilitated 324 organ transplants from 108 donors in 2021.
- Those 15 years or older can register today by visiting [versiti.org/sharinglife](https://www.versiti.org/sharinglife).

### Tissue/Eye Donation Facts

- Every year, more than 2.5 million Americans receive tissue transplants of bone, heart valves, tendons, ligaments, corneas and skin.
- Every year, more than 85,000 corneal transplants are performed to improve lives across the U.S.
- One tissue donor can save and heal the lives of more than 75 people.
- Versiti Organ and Tissue serves approximately 120 hospitals throughout the state.
- In 2021, Versiti supported 566 families who gave the gift of tissue donation.

**For more information on donation, visit [versiti.org/sharinglife](https://www.versiti.org/sharinglife).**