

DonateLife Thank You Day to acknowledge Australia's organ and tissue donors and their families



Sunday 22 November is DonateLife Thank You Day, a national day to acknowledge organ and tissue donors and their families that have agreed to donation.

Organ and tissue donation does not proceed in Australia without the agreement of donor families, who are integral to the donation process. While faced with the death of their loved one, they are asked to agree to organ and tissue donation, which results in saving or transforming the lives of others.

The aim of DonateLife Thank You Day is to encourage public acknowledgement across the Australian community of the generosity of organ and tissue donors and their families, and the impact of their decisions.

Australians will be encouraged to honour the generosity of others by registering their donation decision on the Australian Organ Donor Register, and discussing their decision with loved ones.

Organ and tissue donation is the ultimate gift – just one organ and tissue donor can transform the lives of more than ten people.

For more information about DonateLife Thank You Day and how you can get involved, visit donatelife.gov.au/thank-you-day

WHAT IS DONATELIFE THANK YOU DAY?

DonateLife Thank You Day is a national day to acknowledge organ and tissue donors and their families that agreed to donation. Saving and transforming lives through organ and tissue donation is a vital community service that should be honoured.

An initiative of the Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA), DonateLife Thank You Day provides an opportunity for all Australians to honour organ and tissue donors and their families by simply saying 'thank you'.

We invite you to join in our national expression of thanks by creating and sharing a 'thank you' message via social media. We have some suggestions and helpful hints to get started.

As part of DonateLife Thank You Day, we encourage you to register your decision on the Australian Organ Donor Register and discuss that decision with your loved ones.

WHY IS DONATELIFE THANK YOU DAY IMPORTANT?

Organ and tissue donors and their families who agree to donation save and change

thousands of lives each year.

More than 2,000 deceased organ donors have transformed the lives of more than 6,000 organ transplant recipients since 2009, when the DonateLife Network was established.

Thousands more lives have been improved through living donation (kidney and partial liver donations) and through eye and tissue donation.

The gift of donation has far-reaching effects, benefiting both transplant recipients and their loved ones. For those waiting for a transplant, organ and tissue donation can mean the difference between life and death, being healthy and sick, between seeing and being blind, or between being active and never walking again. It enables people to resume an active life in their family, their workplace, their school and their community. Families play a crucial role in the donation process because they are asked to confirm the donation decision of their loved one and provide vital health information about their loved one.

Families also help the broader community understand the donation process by generously sharing their stories with the public. In doing so, these families help to educate the public about the donation process and the comfort that it can bring amid a tragic situation.

DonateLife Sunday 22 November 2015
THANK YOU DAY



Honouring organ and tissue donors and their families

DonateLife Thank You Day

donatelife.gov.au/thank-you-day

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