



# Understanding Your Options

Please accept our condolences regarding the recent death of your loved one. We understand that losing a loved one is one of the most difficult experiences a family will go through; yet in the midst of tragedy, many families find comfort and hope in knowing that the legacy of their loved one can live on through donation.

Many families faced with a tragic loss are unaware of the possibility that their loved one may still be able to be a tissue donor. Tissues that can be transplanted include bone, tendons and corneas as well as veins, heart valves and skin. Every year hundreds of thousands of people need donated tissue to prevent or cure blindness, heal burns or save limbs. One tissue donor may save the lives of up to 100 people.

Eligibility for tissue donation is determined by the cause and timeframe in which your loved one died. If you would like more information on how your loved one may become a tissue donor, please ask the funeral home or the coroner's office to contact Donor Alliance. At that time, a donor coordinator will call you to discuss any questions you may have in detail. This call also allows the donor coordinator to obtain more information about your loved one's medical and social history.

Donor Alliance is the federally designated organ procurement organization and tissue bank serving Colorado and most of Wyoming.



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*Saving Lives Through Organ & Tissue Donation*



# For Your Consideration

It is important that you consider all of your options regarding end of life decisions. One option is organ and tissue donation. If you wish to be a donor at the time of your death, the most important thing you can do is register that decision. This is your first step in ensuring your wishes will be honored at the time of your death.

Organ and tissue donation provides an opportunity to give the ultimate gift — the gift of life. Nearly 100,000 Americans are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant and countless others need donated tissue. Organs that can be donated include the heart, liver, lungs, kidneys, pancreas and small intestine. Tissue is needed to replace bone, tendons and ligaments lost to severe trauma, cancer and other diseases. Corneas restore sight, heart valves repair cardiac defects and damage, and skin grafts help burn patients heal. ***Become one of the 60 million Americans who have registered their decision to be organ and tissue donors!*** You can register today by doing one of the following:

- Ask the funeral home or coroner's office to provide you with an organ and tissue donor registry form.
- Sign-up online through the Colorado or Wyoming Donor Registries at [ColoradoDonorRegistry.org](http://ColoradoDonorRegistry.org) or [WyomingDonorRegistry.org](http://WyomingDonorRegistry.org) or call (888) 256-4386.
- Say "yes" when obtaining or renewing your driver's license at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

For more information, visit [DonorAlliance.org](http://DonorAlliance.org).



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